SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW

SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE
APRIL 22/29, 2016 #1411/12

Entertainment WEEKLY

COLLECTOR'S COVER
02
OF
0004
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CAPTAIN AMERICA:
CIVIL WAR

ON THE SET OF THE BIGGEST SHOWDOWN IN SUPERHERO HISTORY

SCOOP ON THE 92 MOST ANTICIPATED FILMS OF THE SUMMER

GHOSTBUSTERS SUICIDE SQUAD FINDING DORY X-MEN: APOCALYPSE
STAR TREK BEYOND THE BFG JASON BOURNE *& more*

PLUS

ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD
loses his pants

ZAC EFRON
loses his shirt

JARED LETO
loses his %#$@ing mind

TEAM CAP
Ant-Man, Falcon
& Captain America

It’s amazing the places you can go with just one gallon of gas. The all-new 2016 Chevrolet Malibu Hybrid puts fuel efficiency front and center of every drive offering an EPA-estimated 47 MPG city. So, no matter where you’re headed, you can pump less, do more, and rely on fuel efficiency that’s unsurpassed by any other midsize car in its class.[1]

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[1] Based on GM Mid Car segment. Malibu Hybrid EPA-estimated 47 MPG city/46 highway.
[2] MSRP. Tax, title, license, dealer fees and other optional equipment extra.

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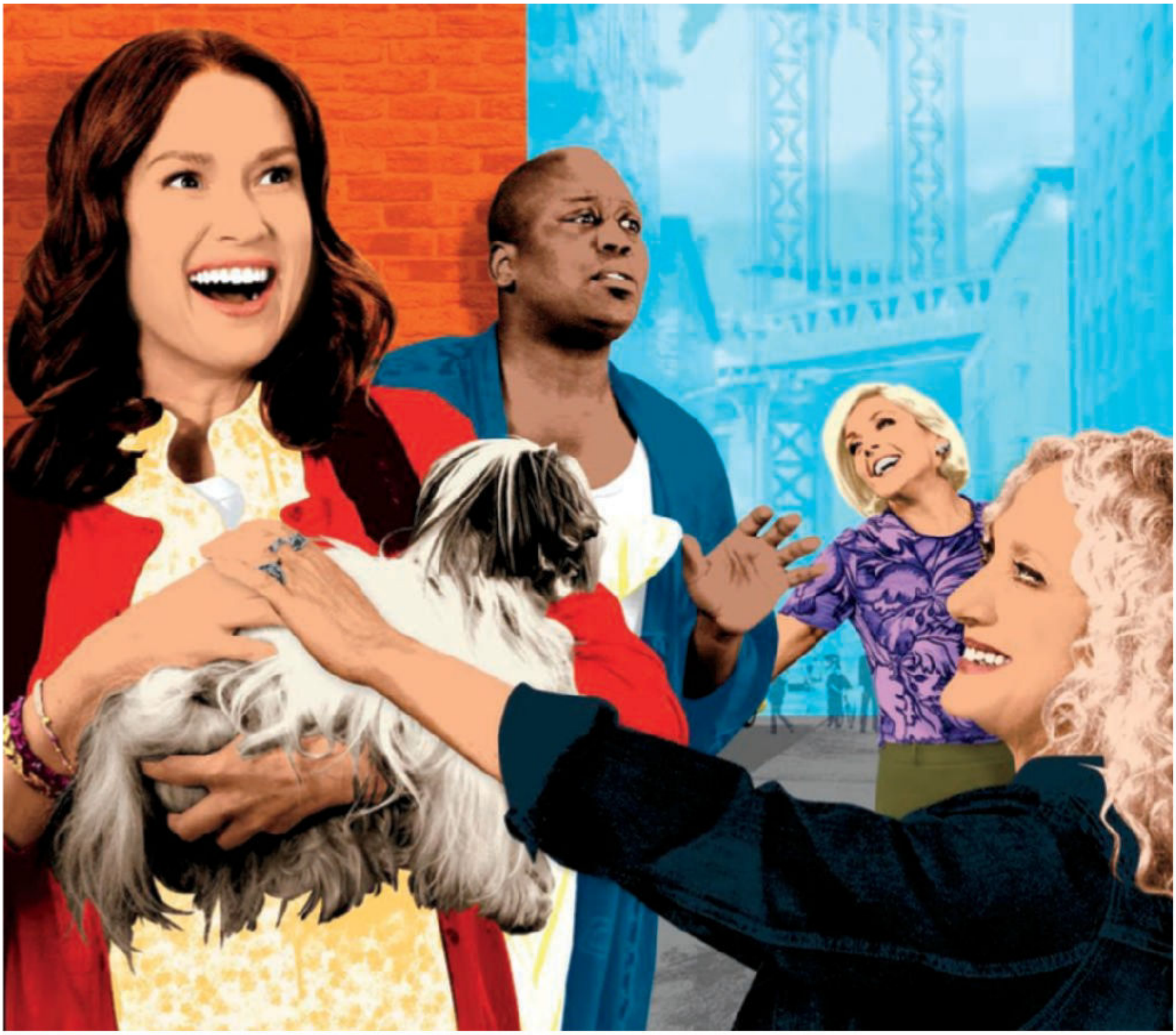
THE
TOP 10 THINGS
WE LOVE
THIS WEEK

The Must List

▼ Ellie Kemper, Tituss Burgess, Jane Krakowski, and Carol Kane



1

TV

UNBREAKABLE KIMMY SCHMIDT

• It's a miracle this comedy of kooky errors continues to produce punchlines faster than Kimmy (Ellie Kemper) can solve Jacqueline Voorhees' (Jane Krakowski) endless problems. In season 2, this Schmidt remains strong as hell. (Dammit!) *(Premieres April 15, Netflix)*

ERIC LIEBOWITZ/NETFLIX (4)

ILLUSTRATION BY **JOHN RITTER**

The Must List

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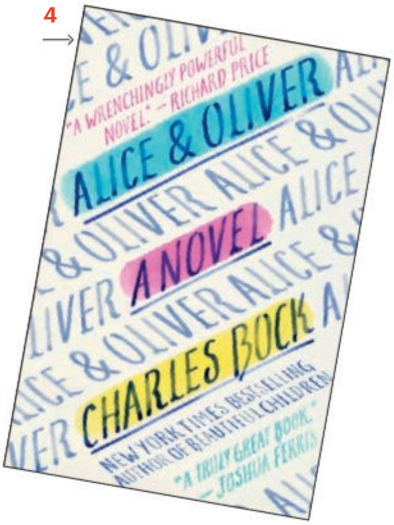
"A WRENCHINGLY POWERFUL NOVEL." —RICHARD PRICE
ALICE & OLIVER
A NOVEL
CHARLES BOCK
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN
"A TRULY GREAT BOOK." —JOSHUA FERRIS

5 →

2

MUSIC

NO JACKET REQUIRED reissue, Phil Collins

● His finest solo album sounds fiercer (and fresher) than ever on this remastered edition, featuring rare studio demos and a hot live version of "Sussudio."

3

TV

THE NIGHT MANAGER

● The slick spy series based on John le Carré's 1993 novel stars Tom Hiddleston as a man tasked with infiltrating the risky network of an arms dealer (Hugh Laurie). Expect deceitful missions and dangerous love triangles. *(Debuts April 19, 10 p.m., AMC)*

4

BOOKS

ALICE & OLIVER, by Charles Bock

● The author of *Beautiful Children* returns with this heart-wrenching story of a young couple whose lives change when Alice gets diagnosed with cancer. An anti–*Love Story*, it's a refreshingly unsentimental look at the vicious disease.

5

MOVIES

THE JUNGLE BOOK

● The live-action remake of the animated Disney classic combines an all-star voice cast and hyperreal special effects to create a fun, creature-filled adventure that more than lives up to the original. *(PG)*

COLLINS: ROB KING/REDFERNS; *THE NIGHT MANAGER*: DES WILLIE/AMC; *THE JUNGLE BOOK*: DISNEY

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The Must List

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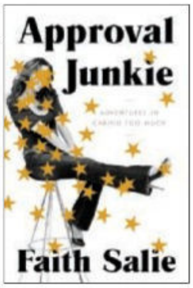

10 →

6

MOVIES

SING STREET

● John Carney, the writer-director of *Once*, returns to Ireland for his next charming musical romance, about a high school band finding its sound. Bonus: The original '80s-inspired tunes the band plays are damn near perfect. *(PG-13)*

7

MUSIC

A SAILOR'S GUIDE TO EARTH, Sturgill Simpson

● The Nashville songwriter delivers one of the most eclectic country albums of the year, thanks to horn-powered rave-ups that recall Elvis at his glammiest and warm acoustic ballads about fatherhood.

8

TV

SILICON VALLEY

● Failing never seemed so funny: With Richard (Thomas Middleditch) out as CEO, Pied Piper's start-and-stop future goes up in the air—a twist the comedy pulls off with an ensemble cast that nails both palpable tension and biting humor. *(Premieres April 24, 10 p.m., HBO)*

9

BOOKS

APPROVAL JUNKIE, by Faith Salie

● You might already know Salie from NPR's *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* or *CBS Sunday Morning*, but you'll fall in love with her in this sharp, self-deprecating essay collection about her long-running search for affirmation.

10

MUSIC

"U-TURN," Tegan and Sara

● Canadian twins Tegan and Sara Quin have long been one of music's most underrated duos. That should change with this dazzling pop confection, the standout from their upcoming *Love You to Death*, produced by Adele collaborator Greg Kurstin.

SING STREET: WEINSTEIN COMPANY; SIMPSON: RETO STERCHI; *SILICON VALLEY*: JOHN P. FLEENOR/HBO; TEGAN AND SARA: PAMELA LITTKY

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SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW 2016

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Inside TV's True-Crime Wave
Arresting details about Hollywood's rush to lock in the next criminally addictive docudrama.
BY LYNETTE RICE

28
The Good Wife
After seven seasons, there is still lots of information left for creators Michelle and Robert King to disclose. On the eve of the series' finale, we called the pair—and star Julianna Margulies—in for questioning.
BY LYNETTE RICE

35
Summer Movie Preview
We need to work out some anger issues, apparently. Captain America and Iron Man duke it out in *Civil War*, the Suicide Squad is mad as hell, and some nasty New York ghosts have it in for Melissa McCarthy and Kristen Wiig. Luckily, this summer is packing plenty of joy, too. *Finding Dory* swims into theaters, *Pete's Dragon* flies high, and Steven Spielberg may save us all with one Big Friendly Giant. Talk about huge.

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REVIEWS

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Stage

On with her head! Helena Bonham Carter returns as the Red Queen in *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (out May 27).

PETER MOUNTAIN

ON THE COVERS

Jeremy Renner as Hawkeye, Elizabeth Olsen as Scarlet Witch, Sebastian Stan as Winter Soldier, Paul Rudd as Ant-Man, Anthony Mackie as Falcon, Chris Evans as Captain America, Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man, Don Cheadle as War Machine, Scarlett Johansson as Black Widow, Chadwick Boseman as Black Panther, and Paul Bettany as Vision. Photographs courtesy of © Marvel. **To buy all four covers, go to *ew.com/smp*.**

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
Entertainment
CAPTAIN AMERICA:
CIVIL WAR

They've got company.
SILICON VALLEY℠
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pied piper

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STAFF PICKS

The **summer movie** I'm most looking forward to is...

SEAN SMITH
The BFG
No director captures the wonder of childhood better than Steven Spielberg, and no author did it better than Roald Dahl. Plus, I *love* a good cry.

SARA VILKOMERSON
Suicide Squad
During last year's Comic-Con I got to see the first bit of footage, and I've been counting down the days ever since.

NINA TERRERO
Jason Bourne
I have a hot date come July 29 with my fave brooding superspy. I'm expecting him to add serious sizzle to my summer!

KATIE MINARD
Finding Dory
I already have *Finding Nemo* memorized, and I am in desperate need of new material.

DRAGOS LEMNEI
Jason Bourne
After a near-decade hiatus, Damon/Bourne finally reintroduces us to his flying fists and his exquisite travel locales, all while outsmarting the U.S. government... I'm feelin' the Bourne.

JOE RODRIGUEZ
X-Men: Apocalypse
It's like my old comic-book collection gathering dust in my mom's basement has come to life.

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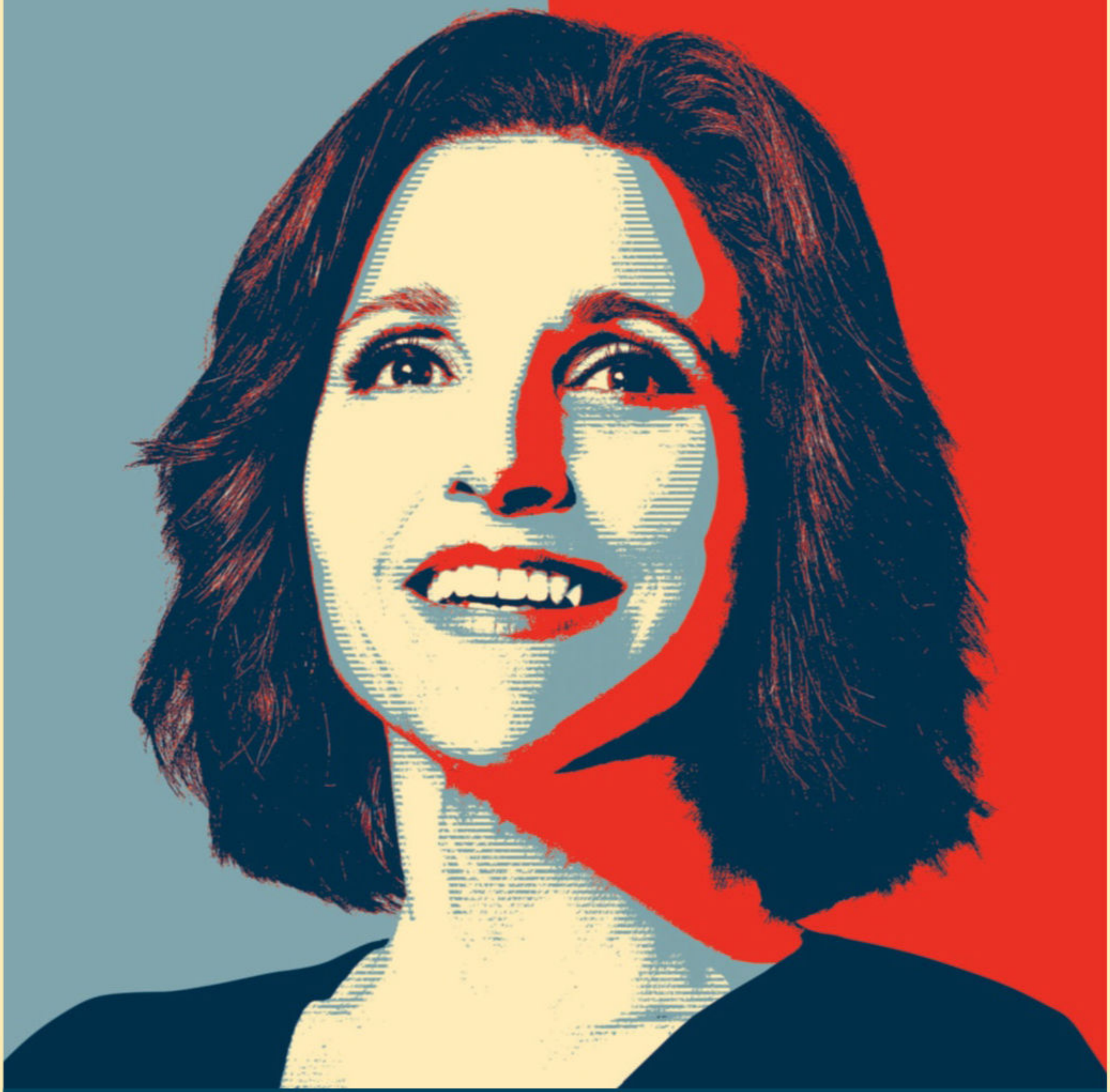

MAYBE!

VEEP

SUNDAY 4/24
AT 10:30PM

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THE WEEK'S BEST

Sound Bites

TWEET OF THE WEEK
I spend most of a conversation fantasizing about cleaning out the pores of the person I'm talking to
@Whitney Cummings

"You don't get revenge. That's mine."
—Olivia Pope (Kerry Washington), right before the much-talked-about head-bashing scene, on *Scandal*

"Donald Trump's daughter Ivanka just gave birth last week, and I saw that she's already back on the campaign trail for her dad. Ivanka's friends were like, 'Shouldn't you be with the baby?' and Ivanka was like, 'Yeah, I'm campaigning for him.'"
—Jimmy Fallon on *The Tonight Show*

"I've got to thank my wife, Blake. Everything I do is to make her laugh. Especially the sex."
—Ryan Reynolds accepting his Best Comedic Performance trophy at the MTV Movie Awards

"The hand that giveth can so quickly taketh away."
—Crowley (Mark Sheppard) on *Supernatural*

"Yes, we geteth it."
—Dean (Jensen Ackles)

"Come on, just because I'm thick doesn't mean I don't have a soul."
—Draya (Nicki Minaj) in *Barbershop: The Next Cut*

"Could be because you're in prison for murder."
—Amy (Melissa Fumero) to Maura (Aida Turturro), who laments the fact that she can't meet a decent guy, on *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*

"Why are all the doctors in this hospital so hot?"
—Kyle (Wilmer Valderrama), asking the question that plagues us all, on *Grey's Anatomy*

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THE DETAILS MAKE THE STORY

EXCLUSIVE Gorgeous Summer Weddings!
Jennie Garth's Romantic Ceremony, Nicky Hilton's Lavish Bash & More!
People
THE ROYAL FAB FOUR!
NEW INTERVIEW & PHOTOS
Our 'Lovely Little Family'
Prince William shares surprising details about 'little joy' Charlotte, 'little monkey' George and how Kate is 'doing an amazing job as a mother'
Plus PLANS FOR BABY NUMBER 3!
Ben & Jen's 'DIFFICULT' NEXT STEPS
ONE DIRECTION BABY! LOUIS IS GOING TO BE A DAD!
ONLY IN People

Booties
and bonnet
by Irulea

Four generations of family

A shawl of fine merino wool

Coins to
commemorate
Charlotte's
birth

An heirloom for a christening gown

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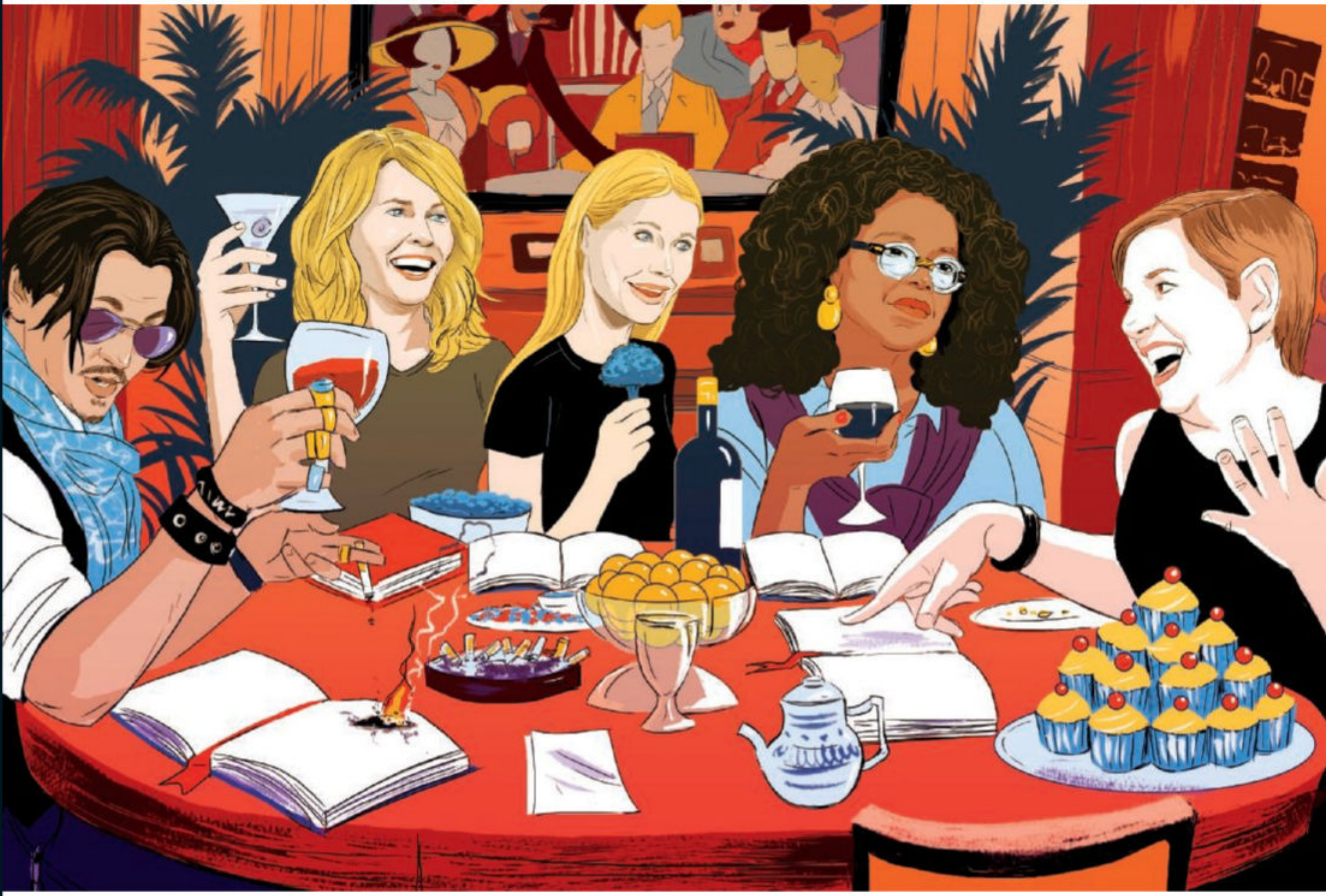
People

News+Notes

▼ Johnny Depp, Chelsea Handler, Gwyneth Paltrow, Oprah Winfrey, and Lena Dunham



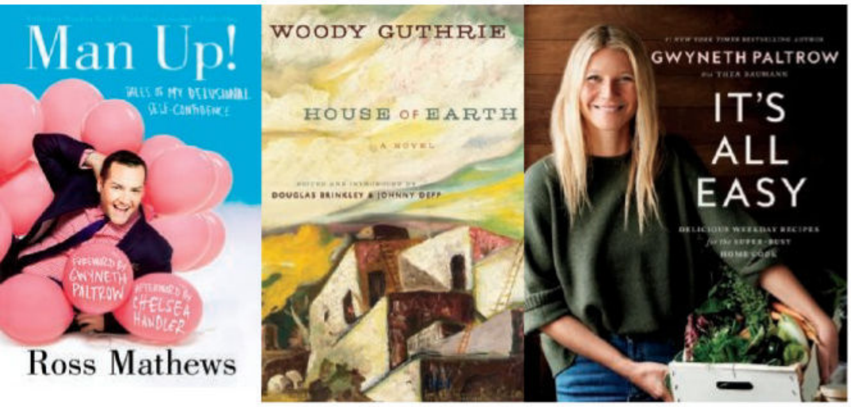
WHY STARS ARE HITTING THE BOOKS

The latest evolution in lifestyle branding isn't a signature fragrance or namesake wine—it's a publishing imprint. Just ask Lena, Gwyneth, and Oprah.

By Isabella Biedenharn

HER *GIRLS* ALTER EGO HANNAH Horvath may never become the "voice of a generation" as she'd once hoped, but Lena Dunham is getting close: Last week, Random House announced the creation of Lenny, an imprint curated by Dunham and Jenni Konner that will publish "voice-driven" fiction and nonfiction starting in late 2017. Lenny books is both an emblem of the success of Dunham's best-selling 2014 memoir, *Not That Kind of Girl*, and an extension of Dunham and Konner's widely shared email newsletter of the same name.

ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN INZANA



Man Up! by Ross Mathews, *House of Earth* by Woody Guthrie, and *It's All Easy* by Gwyneth Paltrow

While Dunham's background makes her a natural fit in the book world, she's certainly not the first celebrity to forgo branded wines and luxury perfumes in favor of an eponymous publishing imprint. Back in 2010, comedian and author Chelsea Handler launched her own imprint, Borderline Amazing, at Grand Central Publishing. Johnny Depp founded Infinitum Nihil at HarperCollins in 2012 and has published a handful of books, including the obscure Woody Guthrie novel, *House of Earth*. More recently, Gwyneth Paltrow launched Goop Press at Grand Central Publishing (her first title, *It's All Easy*, hit bookstores April 12), Oprah Winfrey announced an as-yet-unnamed imprint at Flatiron Books, and Michael Mann Books just found a home at HarperCollins.

Between social media and projects like the Lenny and Goop newsletters, celebrities in 2016 can exert their influence over millions of followers with a few taps on their iPhones. Imprints allow them to extend their reach and refine their brand even further. "If you look at the kinds of celebrities that are [starting imprints], I think they already, in a sense, have been curators in different areas," says Karen Murgolo, editorial director of Grand Central Life & Style. "Oprah Winfrey has been a curator for years in her show and magazine. With Lena Dunham, she has a philosophy of what it's like to be a woman in this day and age, and people listen to her. They want to hear more from her, and [it's] the same thing with Gwyneth." Random House editor in chief Andy Ward, who will oversee Lenny books, agrees. "Once her newsletter was up and running, and Lena was getting a real sense of the impact it was having, [an imprint] made a lot of sense."

Another boon for publishers: These celebs are used to selling themselves—and others—in a way most writers probably aren't. "I've never met anybody who's such a tireless promoter," says Beth deGuzman, a VP at Grand Central, of Handler. "You're talking about somebody who's had a very successful show, so she knew what it took to get something off the ground." In addition to her herculean marketing efforts, Handler was very hands-on when it came to her imprint's products—she even helped edit Ross Mathews' book, *Man Up!*

While Paltrow and Dunham don't plan to actually do any editing, they'll still be heavily involved in the process of cultivating and nurturing writers, most of whom won't be famous. The Goop-branded authors will be experts in their fields—skin care, diet, and so on—but at Lenny books, "you'll also see a lot of noncelebrity authors who we can try to publish really well, as a way to develop talented writers," says Ward. "That, to me, is the core mission. Having a list full of celebrity books is not really why we got into it."

Additional reporting by Christian Holub

BOOK 'EM!

Here's who we think deserves their own imprint. (Banks Books has a nice ring to it, don't you think?)

BY CHRISTIAN HOLUB

REESE WITHERSPOON

Witherspoon—who snapped up the movie rights to *Wild* and *Gone Girl*—has become one of Hollywood's most powerful literary tastemakers.

JASON SEGEL

Not just an actor and screenwriter, Segel is also co-writer of a middle-grade horror trilogy. His imprint could be a home for smart, funny prose for all ages.

MINDY KALING

All of Kaling's books have been such joyful, hilarious reads that it seems like a no-brainer for her to help cultivate the next generation of authors.

ELIZABETH BANKS

Like Witherspoon, Banks has amassed an excellent track record when it comes to scooping up the film rights to women-centric novels.

B.J. NOVAK

Novak's got literary chops: He's penned both a short-story collection and a children's book. And his role with The List App demonstrates his curation skills.

WITHERSPOON: DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES FOR EIF; SEGEL, KALING, NOVAK: JASON LAVERIS/FILMMAGIC.COM (3); BANKS: ROBIN MARCHANT/GETTY IMAGES FOR SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

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ROGUE ONE

Mon Mothma's Revenge

Cut from *Episode III*, actress Genevieve O'Reilly finally gets her day in the suns.

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN

There really are second acts in galactic lives. *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (due in theaters Dec. 16) presents the tale of the Rebel spies who stole the schematics that helped Luke Skywalker blow up the original Death Star. But when the film's first trailer dropped in early April, it was the appearance of a familiar face that blew the minds of fans: Mon Mothma, a former senator and leader of the Rebel Alliance.

Played by Caroline Blakiston in 1983's *Return of the Jedi*, the character famously said, "Many Bothans died to bring us this information" about the second Death Star. Mon Mothma was supposed to turn up—portrayed by Genevieve O'Reilly—in 2005's prequel *Revenge of the Sith*, this time as a young politician alarmed by the Imperial takeover. But practically all of her screen time was cut—all that remains is a deleted scene on the DVD.

A decade later, though, O'Reilly got another shot as the Rebel leader and caftan enthusiast. A Lucasfilm source confirms that it is O'Reilly in *Rogue One*, and this time there's no chance of ending up on the cutting-room floor.

O'Reilly in *Rogue One*; (*below*) Blakiston in *Return of the Jedi*

(*Clockwise from left*) Amber Stevens West, Scott Michael Foster, Jake McDorman, Spencer Grammer, Paul James, Dilshad Vadsaria, Jacob Zachar, and Clark Duke

A HOMECOMING FOR *GREEK*?

Five years after Casey and Cappie graduated, the Cyprus-Rhodes alums may be heading back to campus for a TV movie. Creator **Patrick Sean Smith** schools us on the status of the recently announced Freeform special. **By Breanne L. Heldman**

EW	PATRICK SEAN SMITH
How long have you been thinking about doing a reunion?	I was really proud of the closure the finale had, and when we started talking about doing [a reunion] a few years ago, I didn't see the point in doing it. I didn't want to do it just to do it. But I then took the time to consider what would be a story that would be worth telling...and it's really to see where they are today and see what relationships withstood the test of time.
Why now?	It is five years from the last season of the show, and in that fourth season, we saw Casey [Spencer Grammer] and Ashleigh [Amber Stevens West] and Evan [Jake McDorman] graduate, so the TV movie is picking up, in part, five years from their graduation.
And it will be holiday-themed?	We're still figuring out how to tie that holiday element to a class reunion. *Romy and Michele*, for me, is the quintessential class-reunion movie of all time, so [we're] trying to do the event justice but then also find something that will tie in to the time of year Freeform is considering premiering the movie.
What has the cast said about coming back?	I think everybody was surprised by [Freeform's] announcement because, at this point, it still is only in development. I hadn't told anybody because I didn't want anybody to get too excited until it was a little bit further down the field, but since it was announced, I've talked to all the cast and they're all super excited. It's a fingers-crossed situation.
What will it take to go from "in development" to "greenlit"?	Hopefully a really, really good script.... I'm working on it right now.
Have you ever considered a reboot with an entirely new class coming into Cyprus-Rhodes?	It's certainly something that's been discussed.... It feels like a world that still could continue to live on with new characters. That's just up to Freeform.

GREEK: JAIMIE TRUEBLOOD/ABC FAMILY; O'REILLY: © 2016 LUCASFILM LFL; BLAKISTON: LUCASFILM LTD.

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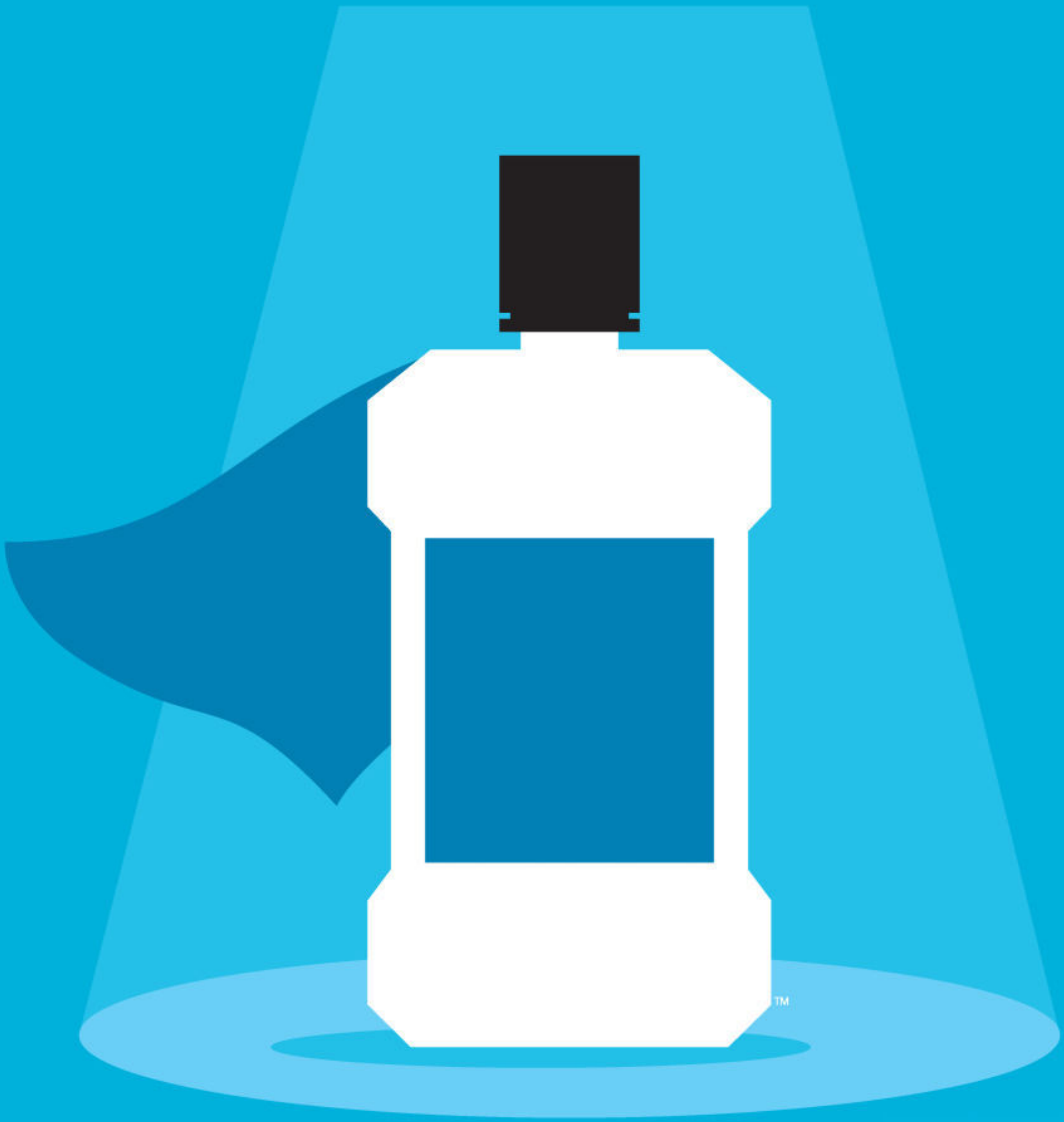

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How to End *The Vampire Diaries*

Could the CW series' eighth season be its last? (Ian Somerhalder seems to think so.) If that's the case, we have a few ideas about how to say goodbye to the Salvatores.

BY SAMANTHA HIGHFILL

1 / Damon (Somerhalder) and Stefan (Paul Wesley) decide they've lived long enough and want to give comatose Elena (Nina Dobrev) a clean slate. Sharing one last bottle of bourbon, the brothers remove their daylight rings and shuffle off their immortal coils. When Elena wakes, she remembers nothing. (FYI, this is Somerhalder's and Wesley's dream scenario.)

2 / Damon sacrifices himself to save his bro, and with his death Elena comes to. (Twist: Kai actually tied Elena's life to Damon's, not Bonnie's!) Faced with a Damon-less existence, Stefan takes a new cure for vampirism, which erases his memory. The finale ends with human Stefan and Elena bumping into each other, meeting all over again. Final four words: "I'm Stefan." "I'm Elena."

3 / Elena awakens and lives out her human days with Damon. After her death, we jump forward 200 years, where Damon and Stefan settle into a new town and eye the newest Petrova doppelgänger. Here we go again!

CAN CUBA HIT THE RIGHT NOTES?

The country's music scene has never been hotter. But unless artists are independently wealthy, they won't be performing there anytime soon.

BY JESSICA GOODMAN

THE ROLLING STONES just performed there. So too did Diplo's Major Lazer. But music fans may have to wait a beat for Cuba to become the next Coachella.

Although the island nation is already a hot spot for cross-culture excursions—thanks to President Obama easing travel restrictions in March—so far, the only artists able to take the stage are those with deep pockets.

"Not everyone has the fantastic disposable income of the Stones," says Chris Wangro, senior producer of the nonprofit organization Musicabana, which helped organize and produce Major Lazer's March show. Wangro notes that the members of Major Lazer footed the bill for their show to the tune of $150,000. Likewise, the Stones reportedly funded their entire trip, at an estimated cost of $7 million.

Part of the problem? The billion-dollar branding sponsorships that make Stateside events like SXSW possible are almost nonexistent for Cuban shows. "It's going to be a challenge because the rules have been changing so quickly, a lot of companies don't understand what they're allowed to do," says Matthew Aho, a special adviser at law firm Akerman LLP.

In practical terms, that leaves many smaller acts able only to dream of touring Cuba—for now. "If I can make my way there, I'd love [to play]," says 21-year-old electro-pop artist Halsey. "[Diplo] says everyone there is so enthusiastic about music."

Indeed, the Cuban audience appears eager to hear more from foreign artists. Says Cuban-born Sergio León, who runs the social-networking app Ke Hay Pa' Hoy, of his experience at the Stones concert: "[To see them] for the first time in front of you, surrounded by all these people that love it.... It was a magical thing."

Additional reporting by Abby Stern

EW TO COSPONSOR BIG-TIME TV FEST

#GameofSilence

▶ *Game of Silence*'s cast and creator on March 28

Entertainment Weekly is taking to the air—and Austin—to bring you the best of the small screen.

In celebration of the March launch of the ATX TV Festival Channel (available through Aug. 31 on all WiFi-equipped Southwest Airlines flights), EW's Danielle Nussbaum hosted a panel—at a cruising altitude of 35,000 feet—with the cast and creator of NBC's new series *Game of Silence*, one of several shows on the channel.

And up next: the ATX Television Festival in Austin, June 9–12. Once again, EW is partnering with the fest for a bevy of must-see events, including an *Ugly Betty* reunion. (Praise Wilhelmina!) Also on the docket: a *West Wing* panel, the debut of USA Network's *Queen of the South*, and a *Friday Night Lights* tailgate. All together now: Texas (TV) forever.

Get your ATX tickets at **atxfestival.com**

THE VAMPIRE DIARIES: ANNETTE BROWN/THE CW (2); CUBA: EL UNIVERSAL/ZUMA PRESS; *GAME OF SILENCE*: DAVID SCHULTE

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INSIDE TV'S TRUE-CRIME WAVE

Arresting details about Hollywood's rush to lock in the next criminally addictive docudrama. ***By Lynette Rice***

MAYBE THEY SHOULD RENAME it the Trial of Two Centuries. FX's *American Crime Story* not only introduced the O.J. Simpson murder case to a whole new generation of armchair detectives, it has kicked off a spate of true-crime programming reminiscent of the late '90s, when NBC aired *Dateline* five nights a week.

Naturally, networks are cherry-picking the highest-profile cases of the past 50 years to rush into production. CBS will team with Tom Forman (*Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*) to produce an unscripted series reexamining the infamous murder case of JonBenét Ramsey, the 6-year-old girl who was found dead in her Colorado home in 1996 after her parents reported her missing. If ordered to series, the anthology show could debut this fall—just in time for the 20th anniversary of Ramsey's death this December. Over at NBC, überproducer Dick Wolf plans as early as this fall to dramatize real-life criminal trials each season on *Law & Order: True Crime*. First up, he'll tackle the case of Lyle and Erik Menendez, who were convicted of first-degree murder in 1996 for fatally shooting their parents. Meanwhile, *Making a Murderer* attorney Dean Strang is peddling his own docuseries (not related to the Steven Avery case), while there's been chatter about revisiting the Patty Hearst story and a potential remake of *The Staircase*, the 2004 French miniseries about the murder trial of Michael Peterson, whose wife Kathleen fell down a set of stairs and died. "The public has had a fascination with crime for centuries, real and fictional," Wolf tells EW. "In many cases, including the Menendez brothers, real life can be more compelling than fiction."

And who better to prove that point than Investigation Discovery, which will follow its pointless *Making a Murderer* special in January with *Hard Evidence: OJ Is Innocent*, with executive producer Martin Sheen. Yep, you read that right: ID Group president Henry S. Schleiff tells EW that former *West Wing* president Josiah Bartlet will also narrate the special that raises "real questions" about Simpson's presumed guilt. "It's a look at the existing evidence that was actually introduced in court, along with the fact that there is new hard evidence here."

> "HIGH-PROFILE CRIMES MONOPOLIZE NEWS COVERAGE AND WE BECOME INVESTED IN THE OUTCOME."
> —*Dick Wolf*

RAMSEY: RANDALL SIMONS/POLARIS; MENENDEZ BROTHERS: KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/AP; NEW ORLEANS: NY DAILY NEWS/GETTY IMAGES; *MAKING A MURDERER*: NETFLIX

▲ (*Clockwise from left*) JonBenét Ramsey; Lyle and Erik Menendez; New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina; attorneys Dean Strang and Jerry Buting and their client Steven Avery

This glut of specials and event series aren't necessarily doing any favors for FX, which plans to dramatize the events surrounding Hurricane Katrina for its next *ACS* installment. "Obviously the existence of all these shows will make it more challenging for us to continue making successful seasons," admits FX topper John Landgraf. "On the other hand, those crimes that were announced, we wouldn't have done them anyway. We discussed and dismissed them for not meeting our standards." Good thing the Simpson saga did, or Sarah Paulson wouldn't be getting serious Emmy buzz for playing Marcia Clark. Even the former DA herself is enjoying a spectacular third act as a result of the terrific 10-parter: The successful author just signed to powerhouse United Talent Agency for representation in film and TV. ◆

Additional reporting by Kevin P. Sullivan

SYED: SERIAL; AVERY: NETFLIX; DURST: HBO; SIMPSON: ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Where Things Stand

Checking in on the real-life cases that kicked off the craze

▷ **ADNAN SYED**
SERIAL: SEASON ONE

A post-conviction relief hearing was held in February to determine whether Asia McClain's alibi testimony could prompt a new trial. Still awaiting a ruling.

▷ **STEVEN AVERY**
MAKING A MURDERER

In January, Avery hired a new defense attorney, Kathleen Zellner, who aims for full exoneration based on DNA evidence.

▷ **ROBERT DURST**
THE JINX

After a March 2015 arrest, Durst pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of a weapon and will face murder charges for the death of Susan Berman.

▷ **O.J. SIMPSON**
AMERICAN CRIME STORY

Currently in prison on several charges related to a 2007 sports-memorabilia robbery in Las Vegas, he has been granted partial parole and could be released as early as 2017.

LOCKHART/GARDNER

The Good Wife

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. SUBJECTS INTERVIEWED *(Last, First)*
KING, MICHELLE | KING, ROBERT | MARGULIES, JULIANNA

2. ISSUE DATE *(Month, Day, Year)*
APRIL 22/29, 2016

3. INTERVIEWED BY *(Last, First)*
RICE, LYNETTE

4. PREMIERE DATE *(Month, Day, Year)*
SEPT. 22, 2009

5. FINALE DATE *(Month, Day, Year)*
MAY 8, 2016

WE THE SUBJECTS IN THIS INTERVIEW EACH FOR HIMSELF STATE THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS RECORD IS CORRECT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

STATUS

Case Closed

After seven seasons of lustful litigators, problematic politicians, and the Chumhum of it all, there is still plenty of information left for *The Good Wife* creators **Michelle** and **Robert King** to disclose. On the eve of the series' final episode, we called the pair—and star **Julianna Margulies**—in for questioning.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

7. PHOTOGRAPH BY *(Last, First)*
OVERGAARD, ANDERS

8. LOCATION *(City, State)*
NEW YORK, N.Y.

9. PHOTOGRAPHED SUBJECTS *(Last, First)*
BARANSKI, CHRISTINE | CHARLES, JOSH | MARGULIES, JULIANNA | CZUCHRY, MATT

➡

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STATE
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~~LOCKHART/GARDNER~~
FLORRICK, AGOS & ASSOCIATES

T

The Good Wife has always been a show about lying.

From the minute Peter Florrick Eliot Spitzered that line of malarkey in the pilot about how he needed to atone for his personal failings with his wife, Alicia, the series unspooled into an irresistible tale of heartbreaking deception and unconscionable betrayal. But now it's time for everyone to face a cold, hard truth: The critically beloved drama is coming to a halt. In anticipation of its May 8 finale (9 p.m. on CBS), we gave The Good Wife *creators Michelle and Robert King the kind of grilling Will Gardner would be proud of about the five-time Emmy-winning series, and put star Julianna Margulies on the stand to testify about the send-off they gave her career-defining character.*

So we've come to the end. What should every series finale achieve? What do you hope yours gives your viewers?

ROBERT KING It should be surprising but inevitable. That's a very difficult bar to hit, so...be kind. I hope viewers will feel like they want to start at the beginning of the series again. I hope it's like *Finnegans Wake*, where the end leads them right back to the beginning.

When did you figure out how you wanted to end the series?

MICHELLE KING We started *The Good Wife* because we needed a job. When we found ourselves picked up for a second season, we decided to write the show as if it were a story—with a beginning, middle, and an end.

ROBERT We wrote the first 13 episodes as if it was a self-contained story, because when we did a series on ABC a few years earlier [2006's *In Justice*], it never went past the 13th episode. But when we thought that things were clicking on *The Good Wife* and the cast felt like it was clicking, then we could write with some security that we could go further. It's almost mindless to keep writing as if there is no end. That's not really storytelling. That's just like trying to imitate life or about making money. It helped us kind of feel that there was some shape to the series.

Is there a particular legacy you hope the show has?

ROBERT Yikes, that's hard to think about. I do think people will think of the show in terms of its multidimensional female characters. It might also be thought of as a gravestone on the 22-episodes-a-year paradigm. Twenty-two a year is just too difficult, too backbreaking. But it would be nice if people thought of it in terms of its cynicism and its comedy; that's what we found most fun.

Looking back, which characters surprised you most?

MICHELLE Diane. When we conceived the show, she was more at odds with Alicia. Both Diane and Cary, at the very beginning, were slightly antagonistic toward Alicia. But we have a fault of falling in love with our antagonists. So that plan fell out the window.

ROBERT People also seemed to enjoy Kalinda's ambiguity, which is very odd for TV. TV always seems to want to move toward satisfying mysteries, not keeping mysteries alive.

JOSH CHARLES AND HUNTER PARRISH

MICHELLE AND ROBERT KING

WOODEN SURFACE, FILE FOLDERS: GETTY IMAGES; THE KINGS: ASTRID STAWIARZ/GETTY IMAGES; CHARLES AND PARRISH: CBS

CHRISTINE BARANSKI AND MATT CZUCHRY

JULIANNA MARGULIES

But whenever we failed Kalinda, it was for being too explicit about who she was. I think even though we have to commit to an idea when we write a script, it's better that the audience have their own instincts of what it's about.

Do you have a favorite character or, at least, favorite season?

MICHELLE All the seasons are our children, so it's hard to favor one over the other, but still, the first half of the fourth season probably won't get into college and might live over the garage and work odd jobs for a while.

Did you ever consider changing the title sequence?

ROBERT After the first season, we cut something together that was more Internet-based because we thought the newsprint dots were kind of dated. We liked it and thought it worked really well. Then we sent it by CBS and they said, "Are you kidding? It's terrible." They weren't necessarily wrong. I think what they were going for was the familiarity, because there are so many other elements of the show that kept changing.

Do you know how many iterations of Lockhart/Gardner there have been?

ROBERT It's got to be five, right? Stern, Lockhart & Gardner was the start, and then Lockhart, Gardner & Associates. And then the next one would have had to have been when Will died—Lockhart & Lee, maybe—and then Harry comes back. Then Alicia comes back. So I think it's got to be six. [*Ed. note: It's actually 10: Stern, Lockhart & Gardner; Lockhart/Gardner; Lockhart, Gardner & Bond; Lockhart & Associates; Lockhart & Lyman; LG; Florrick, Agos & Associates; Lockhart Gardner Canning; Florrick, Agos & Lockhart; and Lockhart, Agos & Lee.*]

And now let's get to Alicia specifically. Why doesn't she have any friends?

MICHELLE I would argue that she does. I mean, Lucca is her friend. We've been trying to play the truth of Alicia's life, which is that she has had friends. Those friends have been in the workplace because Alicia hasn't really had time for friends. She's been a single mother.

ROBERT We didn't want to rely on what we felt were tropes of this kind of "troubled-woman show," like going into therapy or having bitch sessions with two or three friends whom she sat and drank wine with. Alicia's problem was a very singular one. Also, this show is about lying. And I think part of the show acknowledges the fact that people are rarely telling the truth even when they're trying to be honest. And so I thought, "If we have her sit down with a friend, it would be a friendship of lies," which I think was not necessarily where we wanted to go deeper.

Is Alicia an alcoholic?

MICHELLE Absolutely not. I think she likes her wine and tequila, but no, she has never suffered an alcohol-related problem.

"WE LIKE MAKING FUN OF THINGS"
—ROBERT KING

JEFF NEUMANN/CBS (2)

~~LOCKHART/GARDNER~~
~~FLORRICK, AGOS & ASSOCIATES~~
LOCKHART, AGOS & LEE

She's never missed work. She's never been arrested. She's never done anything because of alcohol that she regretted. **ROBERT** She had this great episode with Lucca where she confesses, "I find myself drinking more and more." And I do think that she, in theory, is on the verge of depression. And I don't know if you distinguish between those two.

Was keeping Will Gardner's death a secret your proudest moment?

MICHELLE We were very fortunate in that the crew honored the show. Everyone who knew, including background actors, honored the show. They knew for months, and everyone chose to keep it quiet. It was really the nicest thing in the world. **ROBERT** What is so amazing is that we had to shoot three to four other episodes in which it was very clear that Will had died. And background was very privy to the fact that Will was dead in episodes 16, 17, 18, and 19 before we broadcast episode 15. We also credit CBS, which really understood the need, creatively, to keep it secret. We're still a little confused by how they did it.

Where the hell did the shows within the show—*Darkness at Noon* and *The Cow With No Country*—come from?

ROBERT We like making fun of things. There have been all these *True Detective* kinds of shows, which have a very dark spin, that felt like they were all written by suburban boys who didn't really know true darkness but were writing toward what their interests were at the moment, or about what was cool. So we thought we'd make fun of that by doing it as a "Previously on..." at the beginning of the episode. It would be slightly confusing for a moment for the audience, as though they had turned to the wrong channel. Then we kept it going because Charlie Pollock, who played the lead in that, was so fun. Then on one of our vacations we saw *War Horse*, and we thought it was one of the dumbest things we had ever seen. Sorry to all the people who love *War Horse*! But that's what made us decide to do the *Cow With No Country* satire.

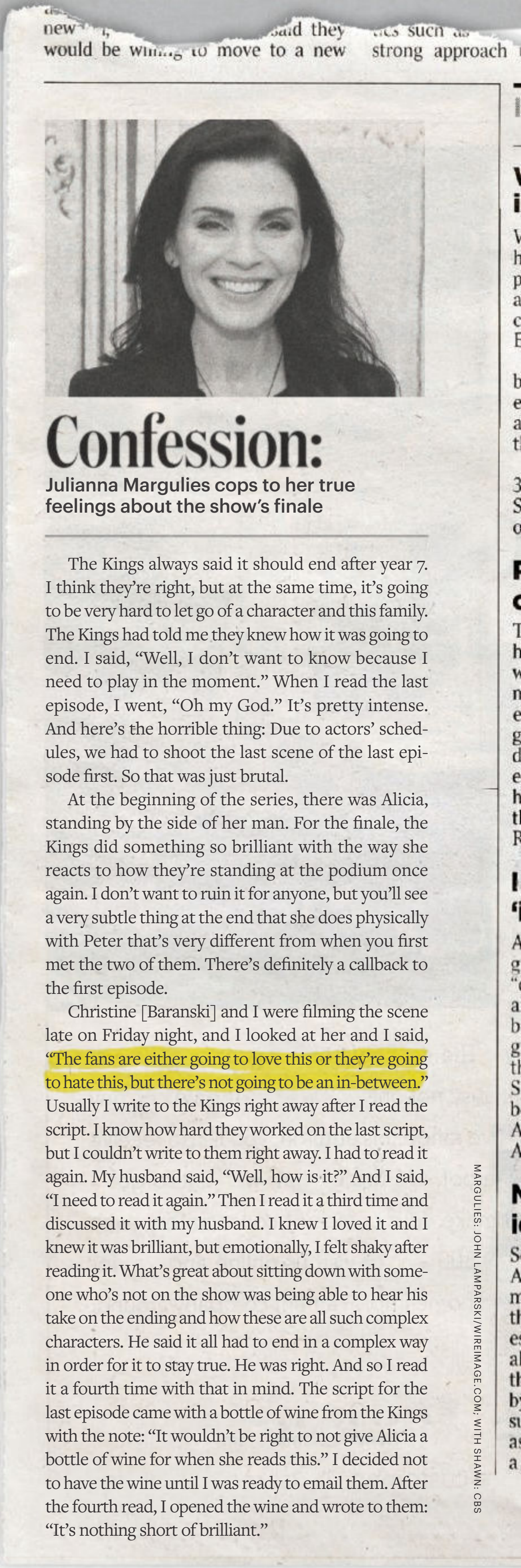
You're famous for your deep bench of Broadway-pedigreed guest stars. Is there anyone you couldn't get?

MICHELLE We did approach Lin-Manuel Miranda for a role, but unfortunately he wasn't available, which was just a stab to the heart. **ROBERT** It's very odd talking about who we wanted when, in fact, we got so much of what we wanted. We'd say, "Let's try to write up a character that's like a Wallace Shawn type," and then we'd go to Wallace Shawn and hear that he wanted to do it. I don't think Michelle and I will ever come upon that again. It was just a combination of good subject matter, a good place to shoot, a good lead actress in Julianna Margulies, and a crew that really made it easy for actors to come back again and again. So we shouldn't really want more than what we got.

One last question. The current presidential campaign: Does it make you wish you had one more season?

ROBERT Actually, our upcoming show, *BrainDead*, gives us a better prism for looking at this election. The country has gone insane, and the best way to address it is with a show about bugs eating politicians' brains. Makes sense to us. ◆

WALLACE SHAWN



would be willing to move to a new   strong approach

Confession:

Julianna Margulies cops to her true feelings about the show's finale

The Kings always said it should end after year 7. I think they're right, but at the same time, it's going to be very hard to let go of a character and this family. The Kings had told me they knew how it was going to end. I said, "Well, I don't want to know because I need to play in the moment." When I read the last episode, I went, "Oh my God." It's pretty intense. And here's the horrible thing: Due to actors' schedules, we had to shoot the last scene of the last episode first. So that was just brutal.

At the beginning of the series, there was Alicia, standing by the side of her man. For the finale, the Kings did something so brilliant with the way she reacts to how they're standing at the podium once again. I don't want to ruin it for anyone, but you'll see a very subtle thing at the end that she does physically with Peter that's very different from when you first met the two of them. There's definitely a callback to the first episode.

Christine [Baranski] and I were filming the scene late on Friday night, and I looked at her and I said, "The fans are either going to love this or they're going to hate this, but there's not going to be an in-between." Usually I write to the Kings right away after I read the script. I know how hard they worked on the last script, but I couldn't write to them right away. I had to read it again. My husband said, "Well, how is it?" And I said, "I need to read it again." Then I read it a third time and discussed it with my husband. I knew I loved it and I knew it was brilliant, but emotionally, I felt shaky after reading it. What's great about sitting down with someone who's not on the show was being able to hear his take on the ending and how these are all such complex characters. He said it all had to end in a complex way in order for it to stay true. He was right. And so I read it a fourth time with that in mind. The script for the last episode came with a bottle of wine from the Kings with the note: "It wouldn't be right to not give Alicia a bottle of wine for when she reads this." I decided not to have the wine until I was ready to email them. After the fourth read, I opened the wine and wrote to them: "It's nothing short of brilliant."

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YEAR 2016

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY *presents*

SUMMER

MOVIE PREVIEW

★ ★ ★ ★

We need to work out some anger issues, apparently. Captain America and Iron Man duke it out in *Civil War*, **MATT DAMON** rages again as Jason Bourne, **IDRIS ELBA** unleashes fury on the *Enterprise* in *Star Trek Beyond*, the Suicide Squad is mad as hell, and some nasty New York ghosts have it in for **MELISSA MCCARTHY** and **KRISTEN WIIG**. Luckily, this summer is packing plenty of joy, too. *Finding Dory* swims into theaters, *Pete's Dragon* flies high, and **STEVEN SPIELBERG** may save us all with one Big Friendly Giant. Talk about huge.

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CAPTAIN

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
2016

CIVIL

AMERICA

Anthony Mackie, Paul Rudd, Jeremy Renner, Elizabeth Olsen, Chris Evans, and Sebastian Stan

WAR

STARRING
Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Anthony and Joe Russo

RELEASE DATE
MAY 06

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN
@BREZNICAN

W

WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT ANIMOSITY.

After eight years and 12 movies spent fighting aliens, robots, madmen, monsters, and other planet-imperiling mayhem, Marvel's heroes are doing what most burned-out, overworked professionals do when faced with unrelenting crisis: They're turning on each other. In *Captain America: Civil War*, the battle lines are simple—even if the emotions beneath them are not. Chris Evans' incorruptible Cap ends up at odds with Robert Downey Jr.'s Iron Man, forcing their friends and allies to pick a side and put up their dukes.

Ostensibly, the two heroes clash over who should have control over the superpowered—should it be the collective governments of the world or the heroes' individual consciences? And what should the consequences be when their best efforts go awry? But those disagreements are just fuses that ignite a series of long-buried secrets, betrayals, and jealousies that, once the credits roll, will forever change the way fans look at the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Still, there's no question that Cap and Iron Man care about each other deeply. People who don't love each other could never get this angry at each other. "This is an argument and a struggle with your family, *for* your family, and *against* your family," says Evans. Normal people may not settle their quarrels by hurling each other through walls, but the actor says the emotional death match in *Civil War* is just an exaggerated version of an ultra-tense holiday dinner. "I think it's much more akin to [disputes] we have in life," Evans says. "Arguments with your family can be far worse than struggles with your enemy."

About a month before *Civil War* opens in theaters, four of the architects of the movie—Evans, Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige, and directors Joe and Anthony Russo (who also helmed the last Cap movie, *The Winter Soldier*)—gather in a conference room at Marvel Studios to answer the kind of questions that you could imagine arising after a real family squabble: *How did we get here? And where do we go now?*

The *Civil War* script uses the brotherly bond between Cap and Iron Man as a wedge. Steve Rogers defies Tony Stark and the governments of the world to protect his best friend, Bucky Barnes (Sebastian Stan), one of the last remnants of Rogers' old life as a scrawny Depression-era kid who still feels lost in time. Barnes served alongside Cap in World War II, but was presumed killed in battle, only to be resuscitated by the Soviet Union as brainwashed assassin Winter Soldier. These days, Bucky is hiding out, trying to rebuild the memories of who

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Mackie; Daniel Brühl as Zemo; Downey (far left), Don Cheadle, Scarlett Johansson, Evans, Mackie, Paul Bettany, and Olsen

he used to be, when he becomes the prime suspect in an act of terrorism.

The unseen manipulator steering the heroes into conflict with one another is a shadowy operative played by Daniel Brühl (*Rush*), whose motivation can't be revealed without spoiling the story. He shares a name with the Marvel Comics villain Helmut Zemo, but has a significantly different backstory. "He's still similar to what you know of Zemo, a revenge character," Joe Russo says. But it's better not to say any more.

THE MOVIE IS INSPIRED BY MARK MILLAR'S 2006–07 comic-book series of the same name. "*Civil War* had been a dream, now almost exactly 10 years," says Feige, who felt the hero vs. hero narrative would pack an emotional punch only if the characters had an established history. The time seemed right. "I thought it was now or never," Feige recalls. "We have that foundation now."

During story meetings, photos of superheroes were pushed back and forth across a dividing line—Team Cap vs. Team Iron Man—as screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely and the Marvel brain trust debated which alliances might generate the best drama. Some decisions were easy: Don Cheadle's War Machine is best friends with Tony Stark, and Anthony Mackie's Falcon is never going to leave Cap's side. Ditto Winter Soldier. The rest weren't so obvious. Ultimately, Iron Man scored Scarlett Johansson's Black Widow and Paul Bettany's Vision. Cap nabbed Jeremy Renner's Hawkeye, Elizabeth Olsen's Scarlet Witch, and Paul Rudd's Ant-Man.

But there were some missing pieces. The biggest was Downey. While most of the actors were still under contract, Downey wasn't locked in, and the actor's agents played hardball before Downey finally signed on. Without him, *Civil War* wouldn't have happened.

Black Panther was added to the cast only after Marvel figured out how to introduce the prince from the fictional African nation of Wakanda in a way that would lay the groundwork for his planned 2018 stand-alone film. "We thought it would be interesting if we could find somebody [in *Civil War*] who didn't side either way—except for this very personal thing that happens to him," Feige says.

BRUHL, JOHANSSON, RENNER: ZADE ROSENTHAL (3); EVANS: JAY MAIDMENT; DOWNEY: © MARVEL 2015; BOSEMAN: MICHAEL MULLER

WHY IS EVERYONE SO ANGRY?

IN *CIVIL WAR*, OUR HEROES EACH HAVE AN AX TO GRIND.

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN

CAPTAIN AMERICA
CHRIS EVANS

STEVE ROGERS is tired of marching to orders. When his long-lost friend Bucky Barnes is hunted down for a crime he didn't commit, or doesn't remember doing, Cap goes rogue against his friends, his country, and his conscience.

IRON MAN
ROBERT DOWNEY JR.

GUILT IS CATCHING up with Tony Stark. He once told a congressional hearing to "forget it" when they wanted control of his robotic suit. But after creating Ultron, he doesn't trust himself and wants Cap to agree to government oversight.

WINTER SOLDIER
SEBASTIAN STAN

HE'S NOT ANGRY; he's running scared. James "Bucky" Barnes is trying to reclaim his own mind after spending decades as a brainwashed assassin. Now that he's going good, he finds himself framed for a heinous bombing.

BLACK PANTHER
CHADWICK BOSEMAN

T'CHALLA'S father would never condone an unrelenting quest for revenge, but his father isn't around anymore. The new king of Wakanda is determined to make the Winter Soldier pay for his crimes.

BLACK WIDOW
SCARLETT JOHANSSON

AS A CHILD assassin raised by the Red Room, then as an unwitting servant of HYDRA, Natasha Romanoff should know better than to trust authority. But she signs on again in favor of government control, though her heart isn't in it.

HAWKEYE
JEREMY RENNER

NOW RETIRED from the superhero game (yeah, right), Clint Barton can't help getting drawn back into the fight. He's always had an independent streak and sides with Cap because he trusts his friends more than the Powers That Be.

RIGHT Anthony Russo (center, gray T-shirt) and Joe Russo (right, in gray cap) direct a fight **BELOW** Chadwick Boseman

Panther harbors a vendetta against the Winter Soldier, which places him in opposition to Captain America—but he's not necessarily on the side of Iron Man. A pivotal historic presence in comics, Panther is the first black superhero, and so Chadwick Boseman (who starred as the first black major league baseball player, Jackie Robinson, in *42*) seemed an ideal choice to take him on. "The way he plays the [Panther] is very different than anybody else in the Marvel universe," Joe Russo says. "He's very quiet with a certain intensity." Evans had to adapt a bit to that new energy on set. "I'm used to doing scenes with Downey, who is just huge and kind of blows you back in your seat," Evans says. "And Chadwick really makes you lean in a little bit."

The other major newcomer was also the least likely to happen. Early on, Feige and the Marvel team wondered whether there might be a remote, outlandish, probably impossible chance that they could strike a deal with Sony Pictures to add Spider-Man to the mix. The rival studio had exclusively licensed Spidey years before Marvel started making its own movies, so the character had never appeared in any Marvel movie.

But after the disappointment of *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*—and a hacking scandal that upended studio leadership—Sony agreed to discuss a deal. In exchange for getting the webslinger a supporting role in *Civil War*, Feige agreed to help produce Sony's 2017 Spider-Man reboot. There's also the chance now that other MCU heroes could join Peter Parker in next year's stand-alone. "Spidey is in the universe now, and the fun of the universe is that characters go back and forth," Feige says.

Tom Holland, 19, won the role after screen tests with both Downey and Evans. "Kids came in and put on these ridiculous Spider-Man pajamas," Evans says. Holland, a trained gymnast, stood out. "The scene [he was auditioning with] says 'Spider-Man flips in and lands,'" Evans recalls. "And Tom was like, 'Should I do that?'" The execs in the room panicked. "Marvel doesn't want to see this kid break his neck, so everyone was like, 'Don't! Don't!' And Joe just started salivating, 'Do it!'" Evans laughs. "And Tom did it—and stuck it!"

Although Holland escaped unscathed, the same can't be said for all the characters in *Civil War*. It's no accident that the next four movies in the Marvel lineup—*Doctor Strange*, *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2*, *Thor: Ragnarok*, and *Black Panther*—involve characters not at the heart of *Civil War*. "That's somewhat intentional," Feige says. This movie will leave things broken—at least until 2018's *Avengers: Infinity War Part I*.

Our heroes will have to get through their civil war first, and that won't be easy. In this family fight, no punches are pulled. Some of them don't walk away from the fight. And the scars are going to last. ✸

SCOTT LANG IS just happy to get picked for a team. When Captain America and Falcon recruit him to help extract the Winter Soldier from the clutches of the police—and the remaining Avengers—Lang's outlaw tendencies kick in.

ANT-MAN
PAUL RUDD

SAM WILSON remains suspicious of the Winter Soldier, but he believes in Cap without reservation. This high-flying warrior is willing to cross the line with him, but he wants to prevent them both from going so far they can't cross back.

FALCON
ANTHONY MACKIE

PURE OF HEART, this synthezoid hero isn't biased toward either side, but he applies a logical calculus to the situation that leads him to believe more good will be accomplished if those with great powers are answerable to a higher authority.

VISION
PAUL BETTANY

WANDA MAXIMOFF is still learning how to use her mystical energy without hurting innocent people. An accident during an Avengers mission places her in violation of the global superhero restrictions. She has no choice but to resist Iron Man.

SCARLET WITCH
ELIZABETH OLSEN

COL. JAMES "Rhodey" Rhodes rose to his position in the Air Force by being a good soldier. But he also is best friends with Tony Stark, so there's no question where he would side. He believes in duty—not vigilantism.

WAR MACHINE
DON CHEADLE

PETER PARKER is aligned with Iron Man because Tony Stark sees potential in him, but even as he's battling against Cap & Co., the webslinger can't help geeking out at them. They might be his enemies, but they're still his heroes.

SPIDER-MAN
TOM HOLLAND

RUSSO BROTHERS, RUDD, MACKIE, CHEADLE: ZADE ROSENTHAL (4); OLSEN: JAY MAIDMENT

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APRIL
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JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER

MAY

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Mel Gibson and Danny Glover reunited for 1989's **Lethal Weapon 2**, but screenwriter Shane Black left the franchise over creative differences. The

COMING *this* MONTH

Alice Through the Looking Glass .... P. 50
A Bigger Splash .... P. 52
Money Monster .... P. 53
Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising .... P. 54
The Darkness .... P. 55
The Angry Birds Movie ... P. 55
The Lobster .... P. 56
Maggie's Plan .... P. 56
X-Men: Apocalypse .... P. 57

Russell Crowe and Ryan Gosling

THE NICE GUYS

STARRING
Ryan Gosling,
Russell Crowe,
Matt Bomer

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
MAY 20

DIRECTED BY
Shane Black

summer sequel grossed more than twice the 1987 original.

THE NICE GUYS

Matt Bomer

IN THIS BLOODY, VIOLENT THROWBACK action-comedy, Ryan Gosling plays Holland March, a 1970s Los Angeles PI who teams up with hardcore muscle-for-hire Jackson Healy (Russell Crowe) to find a missing girl. Put politely, Holland is the charmer to Jackson's tough guy—the proverbial good cop to Jackson's bad cop. But Gosling isn't being polite about his character. "He's a schmuck," he says. "All I would hear from behind the monitor was 'What a schmuck!' It was almost like they stopped saying 'Cut!' and just said, 'God, what a schmuck!'"

Writer-director Shane Black (*Iron Man 3*) knows what that feels like. His career skyrocketed after writing 1987's *Lethal Weapon* in his early 20s, but when *The Long Kiss Goodnight*—for which he'd been paid $4 million to write the script—tanked at the box office in 1996, he became persona non grata in Hollywood. In 2001, when he and his writing partner Anthony Bagarozzi came up with the idea for *The Nice Guys*, Black couldn't get a green light. "I was drifting off the map at a very alarming rate," he says. Over the next decade, he pitched *Guys* first as a contemporary film, then as a TV show, and then—after a *Chinatown*-inspired rewrite—as a '70s movie. Still, it wasn't until his directorial debut in 2005, *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, that his luck started to change. That film starred Robert Downey Jr., which eventually led to Black landing at the helm of *Iron Man 3*, which grossed $1.2 billion worldwide in 2013.

Soon afterward, *Lethal Weapon* producer Joel Silver persuaded Black to send out the *Nice Guys* script again, and this time Crowe and Gosling showed interest. But it wasn't Black's renewed bankability that got Gosling's attention. He had wanted to work with Silver and Black for years. "Joel and Shane just creeped their way into my subconsciousness at a very young age," says Gosling. "Between Joel being the screaming director in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* or Shane writing *The Monster Squad*, they made a big impression in my early film life."

With his two stars on board, Black cast *The Leftovers* beauty Margaret Qualley as the missing girl, Crowe's *L.A. Confidential* costar Kim Basinger as her mother, and Matt Bomer as a hitman. When Crowe and Bomer came to film a particularly physical scene, the Oscar winner calmed the younger actor's nerves by making fun of his performance in a certain film about male strippers. "I had to strangle him at one point," says Crowe. "I could tell Matt was a little bit tense, and I'm putting my hands around his throat, and just that millisecond before Shane called 'Action!' I just said, 'This one's for *Magic Mike*!' It made him relax, and we got on with the rest of the day's work."

Gosling and Crowe established an easy rapport early in the shoot, which took place in L.A. and Atlanta. "We were doing a scene where I'm in a bathroom stall, and I was trying to get the door to keep flying open every time I closed it," Gosling says. (The scene is a highlight of the film's trailer.) "I had to deal with my pants around my ankles, a gun, a cigarette, a magazine. I was trying to keep all those things spinning, and I heard this chuckling. I pulled the bathroom door back, and it was Russell laughing at me. I knew it was going to be fun because we were finding the same things funny." Apparently, nice guys do finish first after all. —CLARK COLLIS

> **"HE'S A SCHMUCK.** *IT WAS ALMOST LIKE THEY STOPPED SAYING 'CUT!'* **AND JUST SAID, 'GOD, WHAT A SCHMUCK!'"** —RYAN GOSLING

(PREVIOUS SPREAD AND THIS PAGE) DANIEL MCFADDEN (2)

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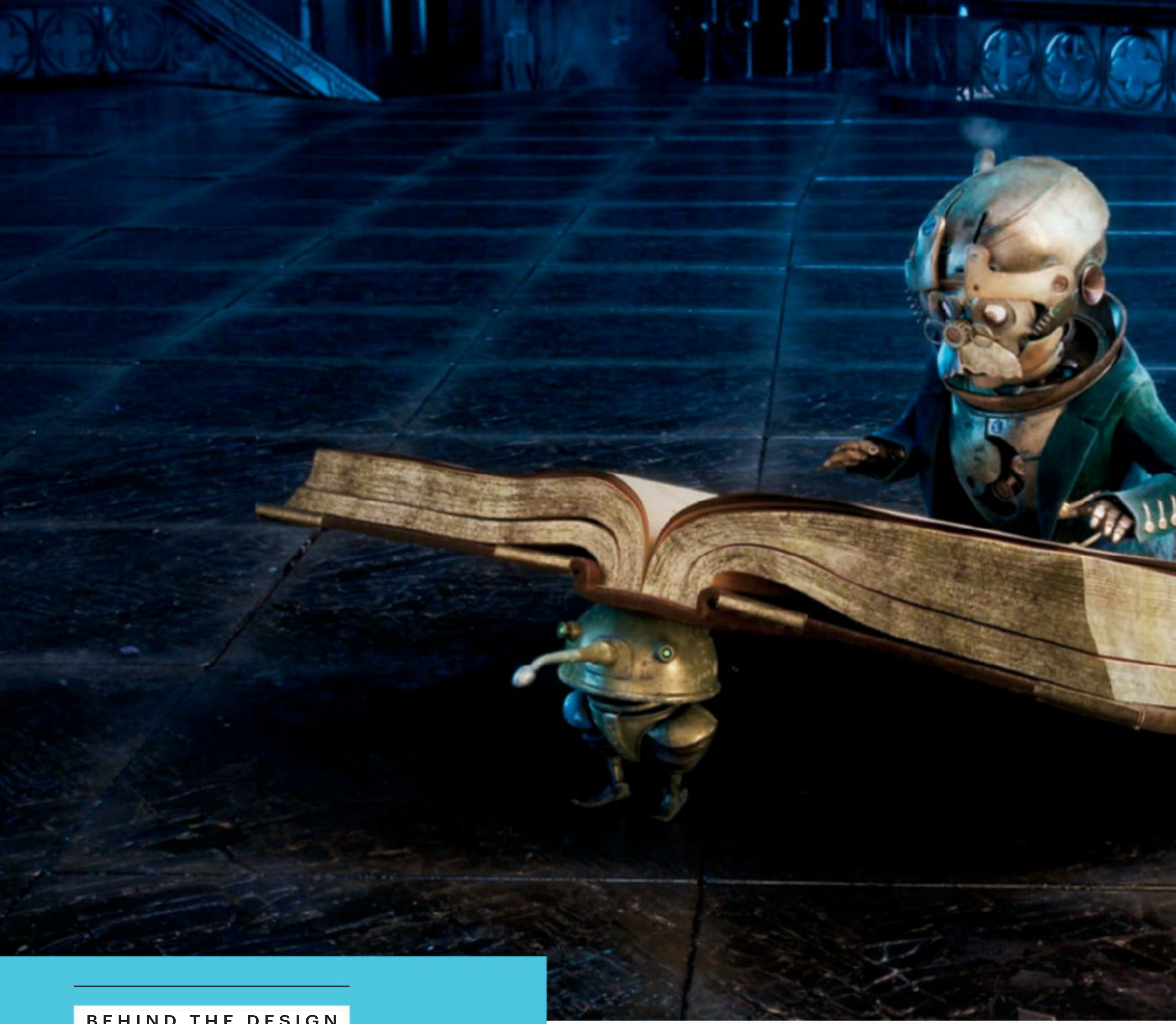


BEHIND THE DESIGN

ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

STARRING
Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Sacha Baron Cohen

DIRECTED BY
James Bobin

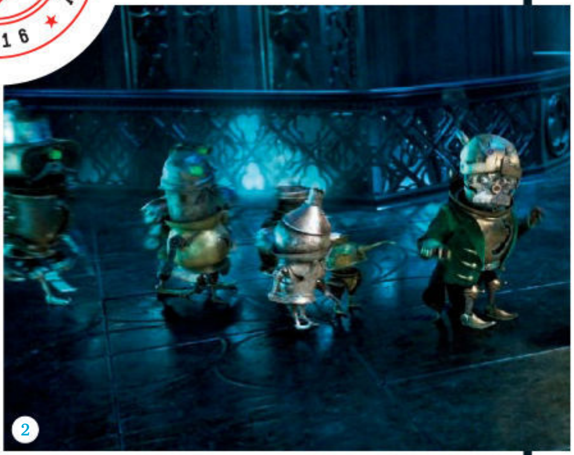
GENRE

RELEASE DATE
MAY
27

IN THE SEQUEL TO 2010'S *ALICE IN Wonderland*, Time (Sacha Baron Cohen, right) is "that classic buffoon who's in charge but makes everyone else do all the work," says director James Bobin (*The Muppets*). As if the idea of Time as a self-assured idiot weren't allegorical enough, his dark underworld castle—which looks like the mechanical insides of a Victorian clock—is populated with hundreds of little wind-up robot helpers called Seconds. And when Alice (Mia Wasikowska) steals the battery to Time's grand clock, groups of 60 Seconds spring into action to become... wait for it...Minutes. —JOE McGOVERN

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Tim Burton reinvented **Batman** and the comic-book summer movie in 1989 with his dark and warped take on the Caped Crusader.

1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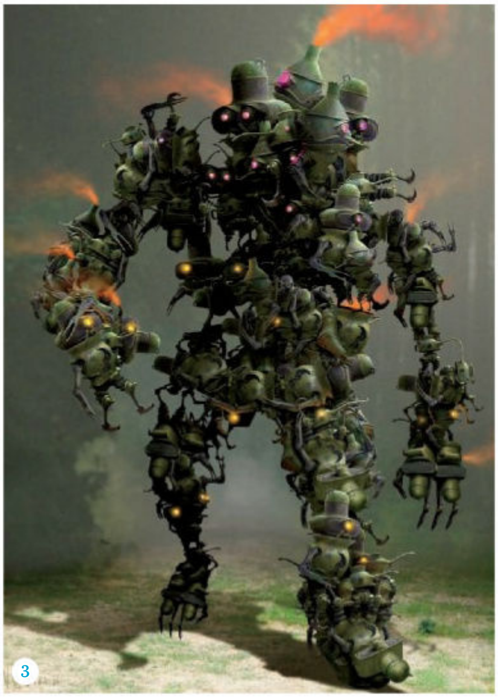
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① STEAMPUNK JEEVES

Time's long-suffering manservant is Wilkins, a metal-mustachioed Second. He is steam-powered (note the exhaust pipe on his head) and can speak (*Muppets* actor Matt Vogel provides the voice), though the other Seconds communicate only in ticks and tocks. The cute emerald-eyed robot propping up the book is "our little oil can with legs," Bobin says. "He's the curious puppy who always wants to help out."

② TIME BUSTER

For the look of the Seconds, Bobin consulted a book of industrial-age tools—featuring tweezers, wrenches, and Allen keys. Meanwhile, the animation team (the Seconds are all CG) made them distinctive. "'Minions' is a word that we generally try to avoid," animation supervisor Troy Saliba says with a laugh, "but we were leaning on body-language comedians like Mr. Bean and Buster Keaton."

③ RED HOUR

A Minute, of course, is roughly 60 Seconds meshed together—and a scarier entity. The robot eyes switch from a friendly green to an aggressive red. Then, when the grand clock is in danger of stopping, Bobin explains, "all the Minutes form into one ginormous 50-foot creature," as shown in this early concept art. And his name, as if you have to ask, is the Hour.

ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: DISNEY (4); *LAST DAYS IN THE DESERT*: FRANCOIS DUHAMEL; *LOVE & FRIENDSHIP*: BERNARD WALSH

ALSO PLAYING

BEING CHARLIE

MAY 6

Rob Reiner's film tracks a troubled teen (Nick Robinson) forced to confront his addiction in rehab and depicts the wear and tear his substance abuse has on his high-profile family.

PELÉ: BIRTH OF A LEGEND

MAY 6

Learn how the soccer legend (Kevin de Paula) rose from the streets of Brazil to his iconic status as a three-time World Cup winner and one of the best footballers of all time.

LAST DAYS IN THE DESERT

MAY 13

Ewan McGregor pulls double duty as both Jesus and the Devil in a dramatic interpretation of Christ's 40-day fast in the wilderness.

LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

MAY 13

A flirtatious young widow (Kate Beckinsale) heads to her in-laws' estate to execute her master plan: find husbands for her and her daughter. Based on Jane Austen's comedic novella *Lady Susan*.

MOVIE GENRE ICONS BY **KOMBOH**

Q&A

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
MAY
2016

TILDA SWINTON

RELEASE DATE
MAY
04

A BIGGER SPLASH

STARRING	DIRECTED BY	GENRE
Tilda Swinton, Ralph Fiennes, Matthias Schoenaerts	Luca Guadagnino	☹

TILDA SWINTON would be an overjoyed castaway. "The stories and films I most love are about the benefits of being blown off course," says the Oscar winner, 55. The wind is strong in *A Bigger Splash*, which takes place on the sun-baked Mediterranean island of Pantelleria. Swinton plays Marianne Lane, a glamorous rock star vacationing in post-throat-surgery quietude with her lover (Matthias Schoenaerts) when her ex-manager/ex-boyfriend (Ralph Fiennes) unexpectedly arrives with his daughter (Dakota Johnson). Danger, intrigue, and sexual gamesmanship ensue—three flavors that Swinton loves to throw into the pot.
—JOE McGOVERN

We've heard about the drudgery of making movies, but making this one had to be fun.
Oh, man, you won't ever hear me talking about the drudgery of making movies. I don't buy that. All those guys who made *The Revenant*, they loved it. But yes, this was a wonderful summer holiday that just happened to be a film shoot. We really felt that sun on our necks and on our legs.

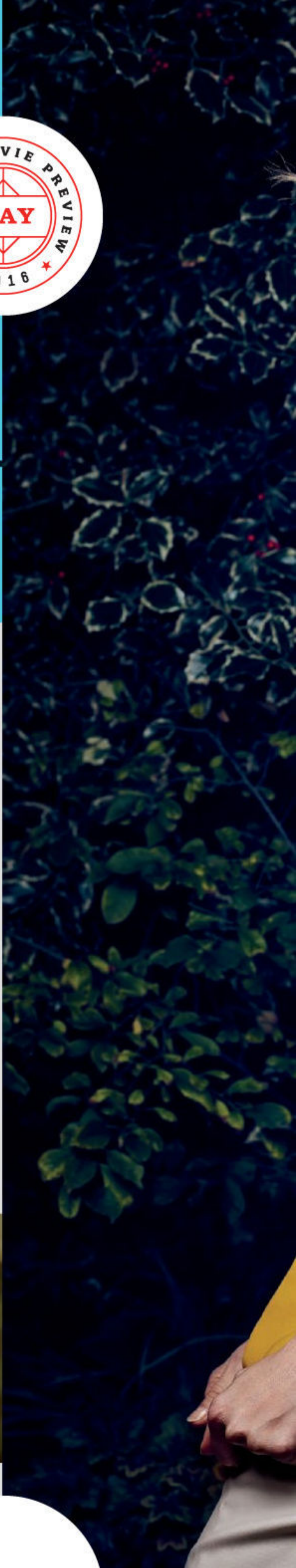
Your character speaks very little in the film. Was that your decision?
It was. It was a reverie I had on a long walk one day about how I could imagine myself playing the part. It occurred to me that the tension would be ramped up if one of these people—particularly Marianne, because she's the linchpin—couldn't speak. Plus, there's something really dreamlike about the situation—you have this ex, and he turns up and makes trouble—and I loved arousing that rubbery feeling in dreams when you want to express yourself but can't.

Marianne's also dealing with the recent loss of her mother, as you were when you shot the film.
Yes, and anyone who's experienced loss will tell you that it's a time to be quiet. If one's licking wounds and feeling a little small, that's not the time to come out to play.

The movie examines fame in a fascinating way. Do you remember when you knew you were famous?
The brief answer is, when I made the *Narnia* film. I suppose I've had the experience of walking into a restaurant and hearing people whispering my name. Earlier in my career someone had once referred to me as an "underground superstar," and a producer friend said that's a bit like being referred to as a jumbo shrimp. So I still feel that's a better term for me than "famous." I'm a jumbo shrimp.

Your director, Luca Guadagnino (*I Am Love*), fetishizes food, especially seafood. I'm sure you'd make a great jumbo shrimp in one of his movies.
Oh, very succulent!

Matthias Schoenaerts and Tilda Swinton in *A Bigger Splash*



A BIGGER SPLASH: JACK ENGLISH; SWINTON: THOMAS LAISNE/CORBIS OUTLINE; *MONEY MONSTER*: ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA

Jack O'Connell and George Clooney

MONEY
MONEY

MONEY MONSTER

RELEASE DATE
MAY 13

STARRING
George Clooney, Julia Roberts, Jack O'Connell

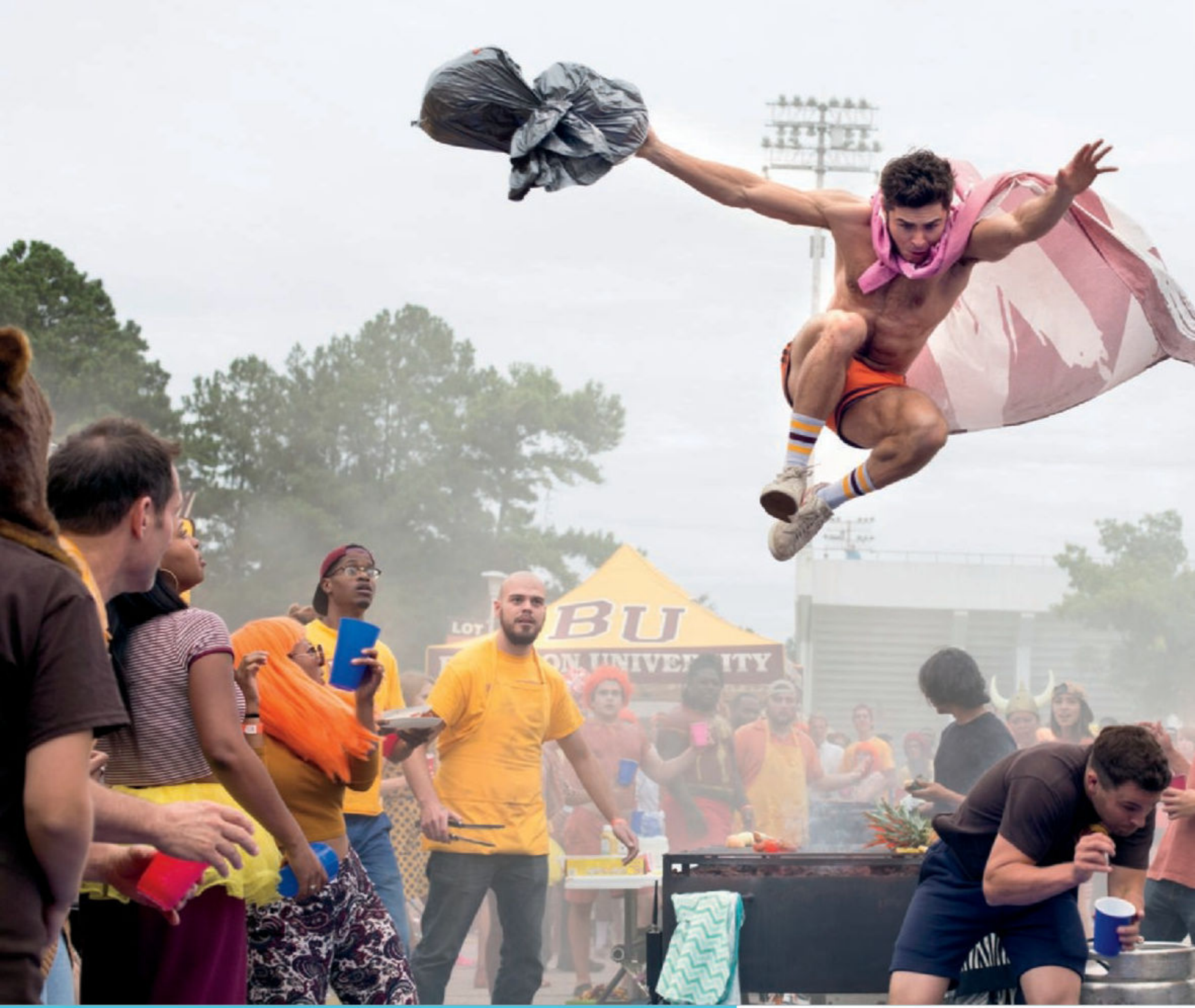
GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Jodie Foster

IN JODIE FOSTER'S FILM ABOUT A slick stock-market TV pundit (George Clooney), his incredibly competent producer (Julia Roberts), and the armed man (*Unbroken*'s Jack O'Connell) who hijacks their show after a bad investment tip costs him his life savings, the director did what has become unthinkable: take to the streets of New York with major stars for nearly two weeks to film a suspenseful set piece.

"I've been making movies in New York for many years, and I've never seen it like this," says Foster of the paparazzi, who watched O'Connell's character strap a bomb to Clooney and traipse him through Manhattan in a frenetic search to find the CEO who lost his money. "You've got the clock running, hundreds of thousands of dollars on the line, and you can't get a shot off because there are five paparazzi in the street and they won't leave. It's hard."

For the British O'Connell, it was both thrilling and startling to work in the iconic locale. "It epitomized the American moviemaking experience: the NYPD locking up the streets and there I am in the middle of town, holding up George Clooney for ransom," he says. "Making the city stand still for a moment, that was quite surreal." —NICOLE SPERLING



THE SHOT

NEIGHBORS 2: SORORITY RISING

RELEASE DATE
MAY
20

STARRING
Seth Rogen, Rose Byrne, Zac Efron

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Nicholas Stoller

IN 2014'S *NEIGHBORS*, Zac Efron's alpha bro waged war against suburban couple-next-door Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne. In the sequel, they make common cause against a more powerful enemy: Chloë Grace Moretz and her rogue sorority, Kappa Nu, who are peddling weed at the big tailgate party to raise money to keep their house. In the scene pictured here, Efron, Rogen, and Byrne plan to stop them. "This is our big mid-movie set piece," says Stoller, who cites *Mad Max: Fury Road* as an inspiration. "It is 0.1 percent as awesome as anything in that movie, but it's a crazy chase, and there's a postapocalyptic vibe to the tailgate, with lots of smoke and fire."

During the chase Efron takes a mighty leap. That's the bag of pot in

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → In the summer of 1978, John Belushi changed college life forever with **Animal House**, which had a box office that topped $446 million

Zac Efron

his right hand, and the Kappa Nu girls are close on Efron's heels. "There was no trampoline involved," Efron says. "I'm actually jumping off a flaming grill. A legit grill—with food cooking on it. It smelled delicious." Stoller recalls the actor making the jump three times on set. "He could have easily done 10," the director says. "He wanted to get air. It's like watching a *Bourne* movie."

Filming the tailgate scenes took several days. "There was a full marching band playing Kanye West songs, pyrotechnics, a huge flatbed truck for performances," Efron says. "It was a spectacle—very different from *Neighbors 1*. We had more money on this one, and I think we used it well." Obviously. —**DARREN FRANICH, WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY NINA TERRERO**

NEIGHBORS 2: SORORITY RISING: CHUCK ZLOTNICK; *MA MA*: OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES; *THE DARKNESS*: PETER IOVINO; *THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE*: ROVIO ANIMATION

when adjusted for inflation.

ALSO PLAYING

SEARCH PARTY

MAY 13

Two friends (T.J. Miller, Adam Pally) head to Mexico to rescue their lost and in-distress pal (Thomas Middleditch) after they ruin his wedding.

SUNSET SONG

MAY 13

A young Scottish woman (Agyness Deyn) inherits her family farm and must persevere through World War I in Terence Davies' adaptation of Lewis Grassic Gibbon's classic novel.

BACK IN THE DAY

MAY 20

A half-Italian, half–Puerto Rican Brooklyn teen (William DeMeo) rises to the top of the '80s boxing world—under the watchful eye of Mob bosses (Alec Baldwin, Michael Madsen) and his veteran trainer (Danny Glover).

THE DO-OVER

MAY 27

After meeting up at their high school reunion, Adam Sandler and David Spade decide to fake their deaths and assume new, richer lives. *(Netflix only)*

MA MA

MAY 27

In the face of a cancer diagnosis, Magda (Penélope Cruz) forms a kinship with a man (Luis Tosar) suffering a crisis of his own, and they help each other weather their respective personal storms.
—**WILL ROBINSON**

Radha Mitchell, Lucy Fry, and Kevin Bacon

THE DARKNESS

RELEASE DATE
MAY
13

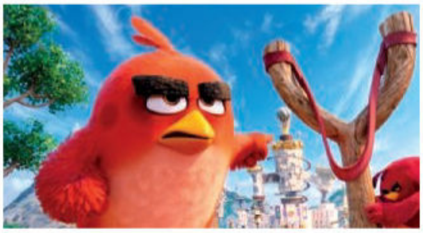
STARRING
Kevin Bacon, Radha Mitchell, David Mazouz

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Greg McLean

AUSTRALIAN FILMMAKER GREG McLEAN made his name with two gruesome *Wolf Creek* films about an outback serial killer. But Kevin Bacon describes *The Darkness* as "more of a traditional haunted-house-type movie." Bacon and Radha Mitchell play parents whose son (*Gotham*'s David Mazouz) unleashes supernatural hell when he brings home a Native American artifact from a family vacation to the Grand Canyon. McLean says he was inspired by a true story. "I was reading about people that had taken objects from the Grand Canyon, and then bad luck started to unfold." So...cursed stone seems free, let it be. —**CLARK COLLIS**

Jason Sudeikis as Red



THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE

RELEASE DATE
MAY
20

STARRING
Jason Sudeikis, Josh Gad, Bill Hader

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Clay Kaytis and Fergal Reilly

THE *ANGRY BIRDS* GAME DIDN'T become a global obsession by appealing only to kids, and the movie about the battle between catapulted birds and the pigs who stole their eggs doesn't ignore grown-up fans. "Our movie operates on the sophistication of any sort of Judd Apatow comedy," says director Fergal Reilly, who partnered with fellow animator Clay Kaytis for their directorial debuts. Jon Vitti (*The Simpsons*) wrote a script that lured Jason Sudeikis as the grouchy hero, Red, and Josh Gad as his speed-demon pal, Chuck. Rest assured there's still plenty of 3-D slingshot action that explores the upside of anger. —**C. MOLLY SMITH**

Colin Farrell and Rachel Weisz

THE LOBSTER

RELEASE DATE
MAY
13

STARRING
Colin Farrell, Rachel Weisz, Ben Whishaw

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Yorgos Lanthimos

IN THIS ABSURDIST COMEDY, SINGLES are given 45 days to find a significant other—or else be turned into animals for the rest of their lives. "It's such a beautiful, unique piece of filmmaking," says Colin Farrell, who plays the movie's central, lovable unmarried man. The cast had ample time to mingle, because they all stayed at the same hotel where the movie was shot. "It was a little *Groundhog Day*," Farrell admits. "We'd say, 'See ya tomorrow,' and then pass each other in the lobby and at the bar. But I was like, 'Ah, f--- it, just go with the experience.'" Audiences should do the same. —**JOE McGOVERN**

Julianne Moore and Greta Gerwig

MAGGIE'S PLAN

RELEASE DATE
MAY
20

STARRING
Greta Gerwig, Julianne Moore, Ethan Hawke

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Rebecca Miller

FROM *FRANCES HA* TO *MISTRESS AMERICA*, Greta Gerwig has a thing for screwball comedies about female friendship. And this film from writer-director Rebecca Miller (*The Ballad of Jack and Rose*) is no exception. Gerwig plays Maggie, who comes to regret marrying John (Ethan Hawke) and conspires with his icy Danish ex (Julianne Moore) to get them back together. "There are two women in this story who both, at different points, follow their lust, and they are not punished for it," Gerwig says. "There's something subtly revolutionary about that." —**DEVAN COGGAN**

THE LOBSTER: DESPINA SPYROU; *MAGGIE'S PLAN*: JOHN PACK; SHERIDAN: FABIEN KRUSZELNICKI; *X-MEN: APOCALYPSE*: TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

BREAKING BIG

TYE SHERIDAN

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

RELEASE DATE
MAY 27

STARRING
Jennifer Lawrence, Oscar Isaac, Michael Fassbender

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Bryan Singer

TYE SHERIDAN came upon the X-Men fairly late: 2014's *Days of Future Past* was his introduction to the franchise. "After I saw it, I just thought, 'Oh my God. I've been missing this the whole time?!' " he says. "I went back and watched all the previous films, and I quickly became obsessed." In his defense, Sheridan, 19, wasn't much of a film buff growing up in Texas. It was only when casting agents for Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life* came to his small town that he considered a big-screen career. After wowing costars Brad Pitt and Jessica Chastain in that film, Sheridan followed up with Jeff Nichols' coming-of-age story *Mud* opposite Matthew McConaughey. "I was so impressed by how much emotion and power he had access to at that age," says Nichols.

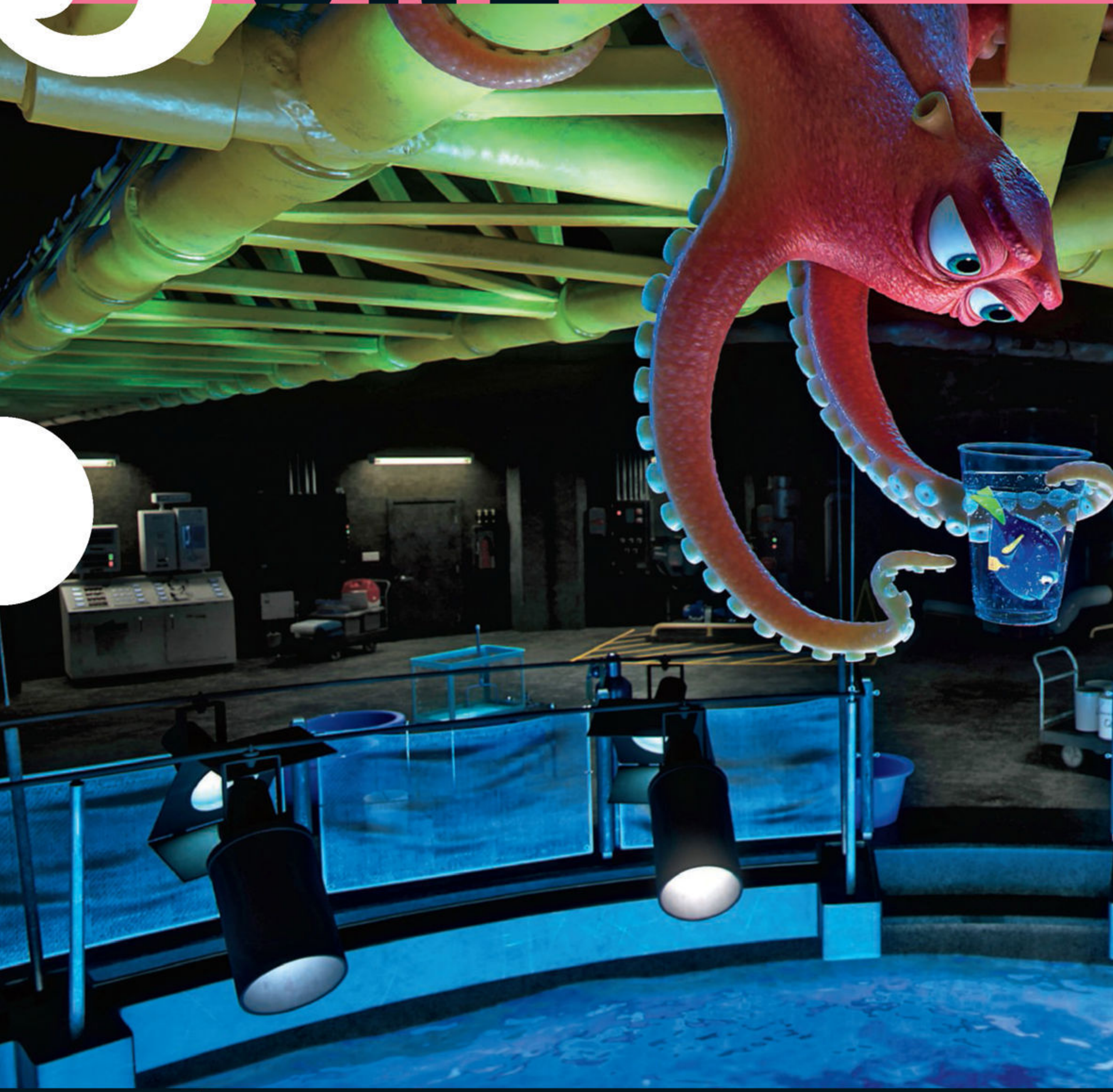
Apocalypse finds the band of mutant heroes battling the titular all-powerful ancient villain (Oscar Isaac), who recruits his Four Horsemen—Magneto (Michael Fassbender), Psylocke (Olivia Munn), Storm (Alexandra Shipp), and Angel (Ben Hardy)—to build a new order on the ashes of humanity. Outgunned, Charles (James McAvoy) and Mystique (Jennifer Lawrence) need the next generation of X-Men to suit up. So when Sheridan learned that producers were looking to cast a young Scott Summers, a.k.a. Cyclops, he became determined to ace his audition. "The sophistication of the questions he would ask me were of a very intelligent nature," says director Bryan Singer. "He thinks about the details and takes it very seriously."

Cyclops shoots energy beams out of his eyes, but that's all done with CGI, so during filming Sheridan sometimes felt a little silly. "Everyone else's moves are kinda cool, and I just take off my glasses and stare at someone really intensely and growl," he says. He's going to have to get used to it. He has signed on for two more X-Men films and just landed the plum lead role in Steven Spielberg's adaptation of *Ready Player One*, the cult novel about a virtual-reality world brimming with pop culture nostalgia. Sheridan can't suppress his enthusiasm about working with Spielberg. "He's like a living legend," he says. "Just having the opportunity to walk into a room, shake his hand, and audition for one of his films was one of the greatest experiences." He won't need to audition much longer.

—TIM STACK, WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY JOE MCGOVERN

Sophie Turner and Tye Sheridan in *X-Men: Apocalypse*

JUNE



SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Pixar's 2003 summer blockbuster, **Finding Nemo**, still holds the studio's record for biggest box office, adjusted for inflation.

COMING *this* MONTH

Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping .... P. 62
Free State of Jones .... P. 63
Me Before You .... P. 64
Central Intelligence .... P. 64
Independence Day: Resurgence .... P. 66
The Shallows .... P. 68
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Ed O'Neill as Hank and Ellen DeGeneres as Dory

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW ★ 2016 ★

FINDING DORY

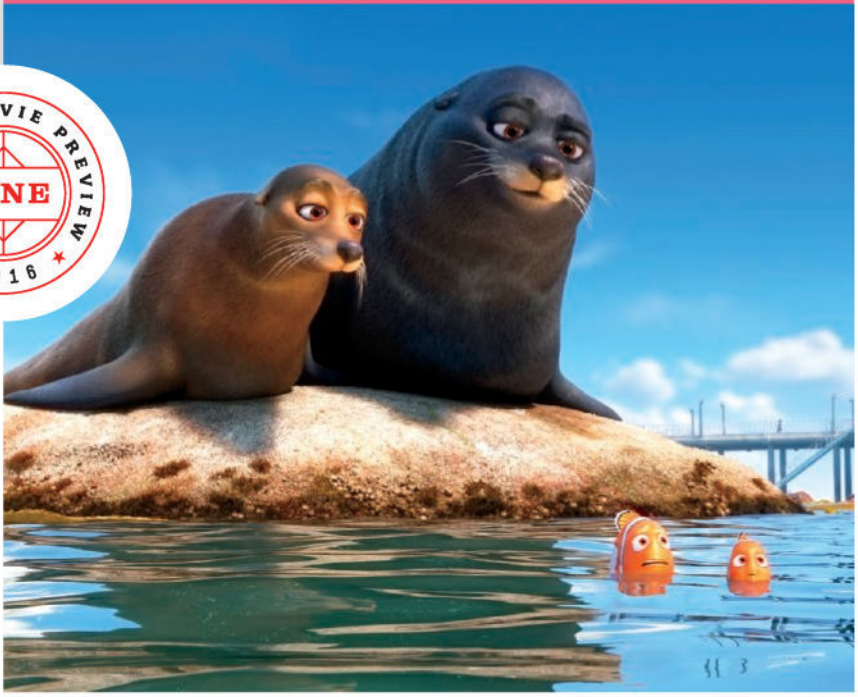
STARRING
Ellen DeGeneres,
Albert Brooks,
Ed O'Neill

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JUNE 17

DIRECTED BY
Andrew Stanton

FINDING DORY



Rudder (Dominic West), Fluke (Idris Elba), Marlin (Albert Brooks), and Nemo (Hayden Rolence)

THEY FOUND NEMO. THE 2003 PIXAR SMASH grossed a whale-size $937 million worldwide. And then...nothing. "There was zero discussion of a sequel," says Andrew Stanton, who directed that movie, *WALL•E*, and now this one with codirector Angus MacLane. "Nobody plans to make a sequel 13 years later."

For years, Stanton stayed mum on a follow-up to *Finding Nemo*, the underwater adventure of a clown fish named Marlin (Albert Brooks) tracking his captured son across the Australian seas. But that changed when the director screened the film in 2010 during its conversion to 3-D for rerelease, and had an epiphany: one about Ellen DeGeneres' breakout sidekick swimmer, Dory, an optimistic blue tang with short-term memory loss.

"I remember thinking, 'I actually worry about Dory. I worry she'll get lost again,'" says Stanton. "In my mind, she was always a tragic figure—there's no way you can wander the ocean with that kind of handicap. She didn't know where her family was. And I thought, 'I'd love to have her not see herself as somebody with a deficiency and know that she could find her way back if she was on her own.'"

Stanton secretly worked on the sequel's story—about Dory's quest to reconnect with her parents—for around eight months until he was ready to announce his intentions in early 2012 to the rest of Pixar...and DeGeneres. The talk-show host had joked for years about all the other sequels Pixar was developing before *Dory*. "Honestly, I kind of gave up on it because it had been 10 years, but when he finally called me, the first thing he said to me was 'Uncle,' and I knew that we were doing it," says DeGeneres.

Suddenly, Dory was swimming again, and DeGeneres instantly sank back into the role. "It really did surprise me how easy it was for me to be her again," she says. This time, Dory's big adventure—the search for her family—sends her to the Marine Life Institute in California, where she meets a slew of new characters, including a curmudgeonly octopus named Hank (*Modern Family*'s Ed O'Neill), who dreams of swapping shallow kiddie touch pools for deep-water solitary confinement. "He was born in captivity, doesn't like to be touched, and she drives him absolutely crazy because she can't remember anything," says O'Neill, who was Stanton's first and only choice for the role. "But they're amazing animals. He shape-shifts, he changes colors—go Google 'mimic octopus'!"

Hank—who Pixar animators almost unanimously agree is the most challenging character they've developed in 18 years—is one of several newcomers to the cast, including O'Neill's TV costar Ty Burrell (as a neurotic beluga whale), Idris Elba (as a lazy sea lion, Fluke), and Eugene Levy and Diane Keaton as Dory's parents (no spoilers here: At the very least, you'll meet them in a flashback). Plus, there are all the fresh fish who bump into Marlin (Brooks) and Nemo (now voiced by 12-year-old Hayden Rolence) as they explore the ocean depths to find their forgetful friend.

Despite the grand expansion of the *Nemo* world, Stanton says he hopes the series is a two-parter, not a trilogy. "I really do feel like this was the missing piece, emotionally, for the first movie," he says. "Now I've stopped saying never. But to my knowledge, everything born of the first movie is wrapped up." Still, the ocean is so big, so vast...you can never be quite sure who may get lost next.

—MARC SNETIKER

> **"THERE WAS ZERO DISCUSSION** *OF A SEQUEL.* **NOBODY PLANS TO MAKE A SEQUEL** *13 YEARS LATER."* —ANDREW STANTON

(PREVIOUS SPREAD AND THIS PAGE) PIXAR (2)

THEY KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE HUNTED BY HUMANS
m
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m&m's
m&m's
X-MEN
APOCALYPSE
MAY 27
MARVEL
20th Century Fox
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

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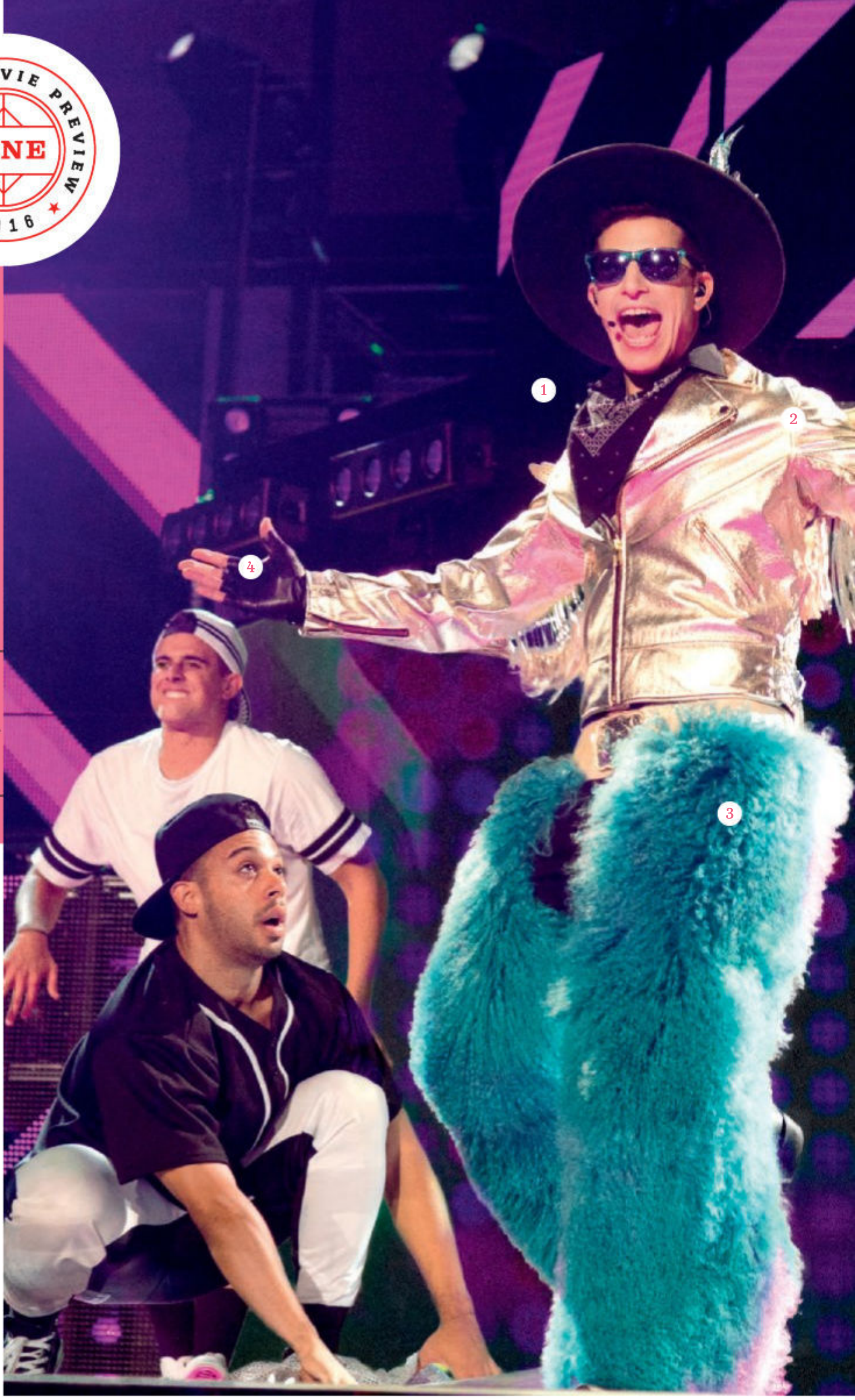
SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
JUNE
2016

BEHIND THE WARDROBE

POP STAR

NEVER STOP NEVER STOPPING

RELEASE DATE	STARRING	GENRE
JUNE 03	Andy Samberg, Jorma Taccone, Akiva Schaffer	
	DIRECTED BY Jorma Taccone and Akiva Schaffer	



FOR THEIR NEW FEATURE FILM, the Lonely Island trio—the guys behind *SNL* viral hits like “D--- in a Box” and “Lazy Sunday”—created a pop mockumentary, complete with their own hip-hop star: Conner4Real (Andy Samberg). “We decided early on that we wanted Conner to be the embodiment of that culture,” says Samberg, who wrote the script with codirectors Jorma Taccone and Akiva Schaffer. “But we wanted it to be the loudest and most poppy and silly [aspects of it].” Costume director Sophie de Rakoff (*Legally Blonde*) pulled more than 100 outfits for Conner—and the threads helped Samberg get into character. “The second you put on a bunch of chains and those pants,” he says, “you understand why all these dudes walk and talk the way that they do.” This particular outfit, worn while Conner is trying to spice things up on stage, is one of Samberg’s favorites: “It’s almost like the crazy fuzzy monster from old Bugs Bunny cartoons, mixed with some sort of weird ’90s angel.” —SARA VILKOMERSON

① **SIR MIX A LOT**
Samberg is wearing an extra-tall Stetson called a Tom Mix, named for the silent-film-era cowboy. As for the feather, “Well, you know, it’s Conner—you’ve got to sauce it up a bit,” says de Rakoff. The neckerchief she bedazzled herself (of course).

② **GREAT SCOTT!**
De Rakoff tracked down this Jeremy Scott jacket on eBay. “I knew what I wanted, and we stalked it until we found it,” she says. (Adds Samberg: “Sophie was *very* excited about this jacket.”)

③ **LAMB CHAPS**
“These chaps and the jacket, one won’t work without the other,” says de Rakoff. She knew she wanted Conner’s chaps to be a bright blue, and she finally found the appropriate Mongolian lambskin in New York City and had the chaps shipped out and made.

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Madonna expressed herself in black and white, and **Truth or Dare** became a record-breaking summer music doc in 1991.

Matthias
Schoenaerts
and Swinton

Andy Samberg

④ GLOVE LOVE

It's not just Conner who loves fingerless gloves. "As children of the '80s, we will forever think fingerless gloves are nonironically cool," says Samberg. Indeed, de Rakoff adds: "The gloves became a bit of a signature thing for him."

POP STAR: NEVER STOP NEVER STOPPING: GLEN WILSON; *TMNT: OUT OF THE SHADOWS*: LULA CARVALHO; *FREE STATE OF JONES*: MURRAY CLOSE

ALSO PLAYING

THE BYE BYE MAN
JUNE 3
Three college students move into an off-campus house already occupied by a supernatural entity (Doug Jones) that targets anyone who speaks his name.

TMNT: OUT OF THE SHADOWS
JUNE 3
The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Megan Fox are back, featuring the reboot's first appearance of vigilante Casey Jones, played by *Arrow*'s Stephen Amell.

THE CONJURING 2
JUNE 10
Director James Wan depicts one of the most frightening hauntings from the case files of demonologist couple Ed and Lorraine Warrens (Patrick Wilson, Vera Farmiga), set in 1970s North London.

GENIUS
JUNE 10
Jude Law is unbridled author Thomas Wolfe, and Colin Firth is the acclaimed book editor who molded his talent. Nicole Kidman and Laura Linney play their respective love interests.

THE MUSIC OF STRANGERS
JUNE 10
Oscar-winning director Morgan Neville (*20 Feet From Stardom*) documents the international musical collective called the Silk Road Ensemble, led by renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

FREE STATE OF JONES

RELEASE DATE	STARRING	GENRE
JUNE **24**	**Matthew McConaughey, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Mahershala Ali** DIRECTED BY Gary Ross	☹

THE TRUE STORY OF NEWTON KNIGHT (Matthew McConaughey)—a Mississippi farmer who led poor whites and local slaves, including Moses Washington (*House of Cards*' Mahershala Ali), in a biracial uprising against the Confederacy during the Civil War—has fascinated writer-director Gary Ross (*The Hunger Games*) for a decade. "It's the only time in my life I've studied a single topic this intensely and learned so much," Ross says. McConaughey's Texas roots helped bring Knight to life. "You have to be from the South the way Matthew is," says Ross. "You have to understand the nuance of this world; you have to feel it in your marrow. Matthew has that." Commence rhythmic chest thump and live-free-or-die chant. —SARA VILKOMERSON

Matthew McConaughey and Mahershala Ali

Emilia Clarke and Sam Claflin

ME BEFORE YOU

RELEASE DATE	STARRING	GENRE
JUNE 03	Emilia Clarke, Sam Claflin, Matthew Lewis	💍
	DIRECTED BY Thea Sharrock	

EMILIA CLARKE'S PORTRAYAL OF Daenerys Targaryen on *Game of Thrones* is ferocious, so it's a bit startling when the Mother of Dragons breaks into a broad grin as the bumbling caretaker Louisa Clark in the adaptation of Jojo Moyes' best-selling novel *Me Before You*. To Clarke, Moyes got much closer to depicting her real personality than George R.R. Martin ever could. "I was blown away that Jojo wrote me down—I mean *me* as a person," says Clarke. "I've got a few more bad traits, personally, than Louisa does, but her sincerity and delight that just shines from the page was something I was so attracted to."

In what looks to be *the* summer tearjerker, Clarke's quirky yet seemingly unemployable character lands a job caring for an invalid, only to discover he's master-of-the-universe type Will Traynor (Sam Claflin), reduced to a wheelchair after a freak traffic accident makes him a bitter quadriplegic.

Moyes, who also wrote the screenplay, didn't hold back when it came to the story's emotional beats, and it was British theater director Thea Sharrock's job, in her first film, to translate that without being heavy-handed. "When was the last time you went to the cinema and you really, really cried?" Sharrock asks. "I hope that what we've done is taken people to that very difficult place, but then as the credits roll, leave them with a smile on their face." —NICOLE SPERLING

Q&A

DWAYNE JOHNSON & KEVIN HART

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

RELEASE DATE	STARRING	GENRE
JUNE 17	Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Aaron Paul	😄
	DIRECTED BY Rawson Marshall Thurber	

Kevin Hart and Dwayne Johnson in *Central Intelligence*

ME BEFORE YOU: ALEX BAILEY; *CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE*: CLAIRE FOLGER; JOHNSON AND HART: BRIAN BOWEN SMITH

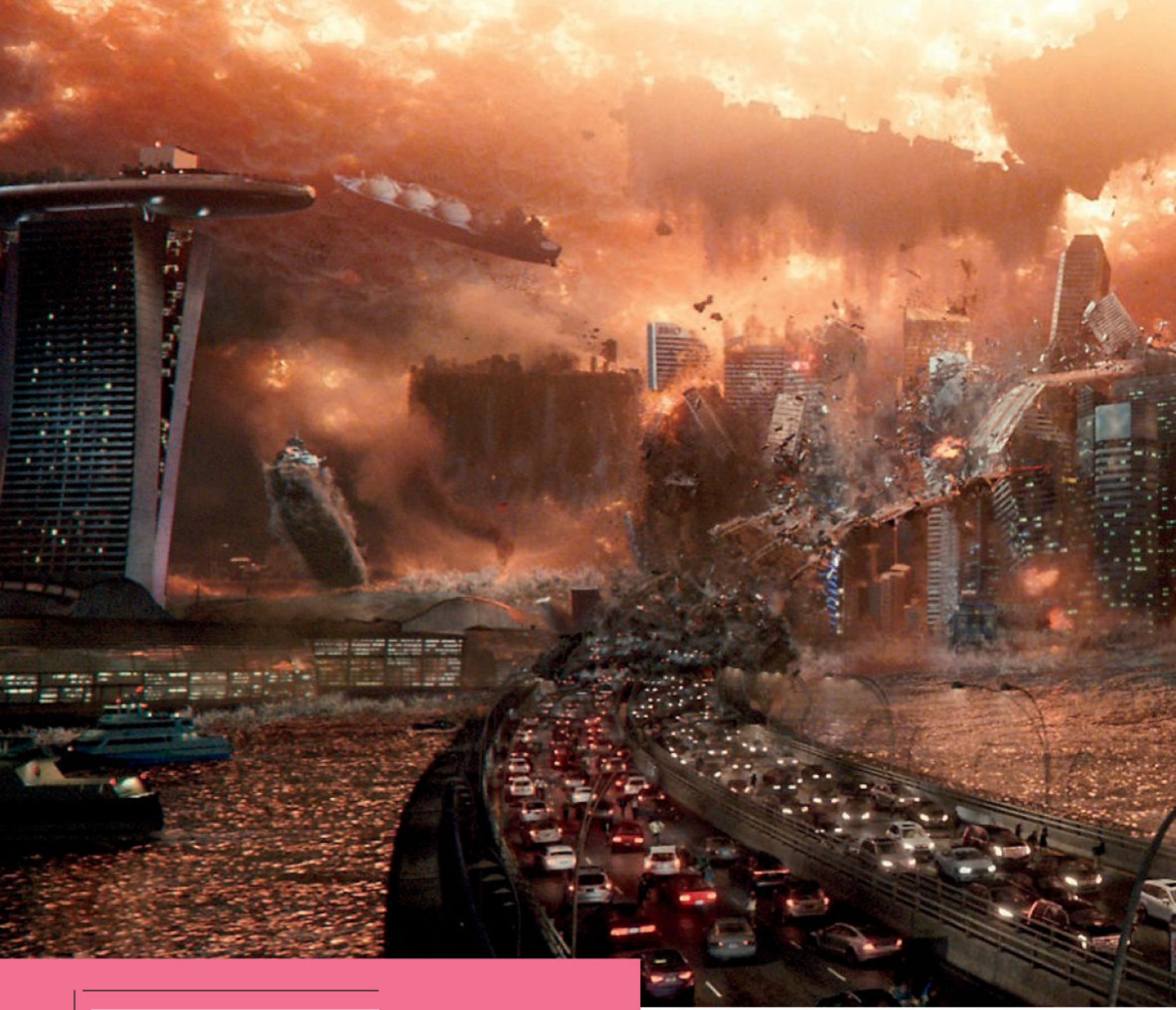
TIME HAS A FUNNY way of flipping the script on high school stereotypes. That's the setup for *Central Intelligence*, which pairs a chubby geek–turned–chiseled CIA agent (Dwayne Johnson, 43) with a BMOC–turned–accountant (Kevin Hart, 36) at their high-school reunion. Their mission? To save the world, of course.
—NINA TERRERO

Kevin and Dwayne, which real-life skill do you think the other has that would come in handy for saving the world?
KEVIN HART You know what I have? The ability to not care about anybody but myself. I'm really good at saving myself. DJ, on the other hand? DJ is the one you want on your side.
DWAYNE JOHNSON 'Cause I care about people.
HART There's a scene in *San Andreas* where the girl got to see who her stepdad really was when he took off and never came back. That would be me. DJ saves everyone. I'm never gonna do that, ever.

In the movie there are a few flashback scenes to high school. What's your worst high school memory?
HART Mine was definitely my moms whupping me in front of my ninth-grade class. I wanted to try out for the basketball team, but the tryouts were at 6 a.m. and I lived almost an hour away from the school, so I had to leave the house at, like, 4 a.m. to make it. My moms didn't want me on public transportation that early, so I set all the clocks in the house [forward], including her watch. So at 4 a.m. it looked like 6 a.m., when I'd already be leaving the house. My moms got to work like two hours early, and when no one was there, she started to check the clocks. Then she took the day off, came up to the school, and beat the mess out of me. [*Laughs*]
JOHNSON My mom didn't whup me, but I definitely was a delinquent in the ninth grade, getting arrested. The cops wanted me for something, and they came into my classroom. That was embarrassing.
HART Really? 'Cause that sounds cool.

Dwayne, there's a sequence where your character breaks into song. Which one of you actually has a better falsetto?
HART I can't sing worth a damn. If a job ever came down to me singing, bye-bye, Hollywood.
JOHNSON I have a decent falsetto. I can hold a note, especially when I get drunk.

The movie's called *Central Intelligence*. We know who's taller, but who's smarter?
HART On record...
JOHNSON That would be me.



ANATOMY OF A SCENE

INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE

STARRING
Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, Liam Hemsworth

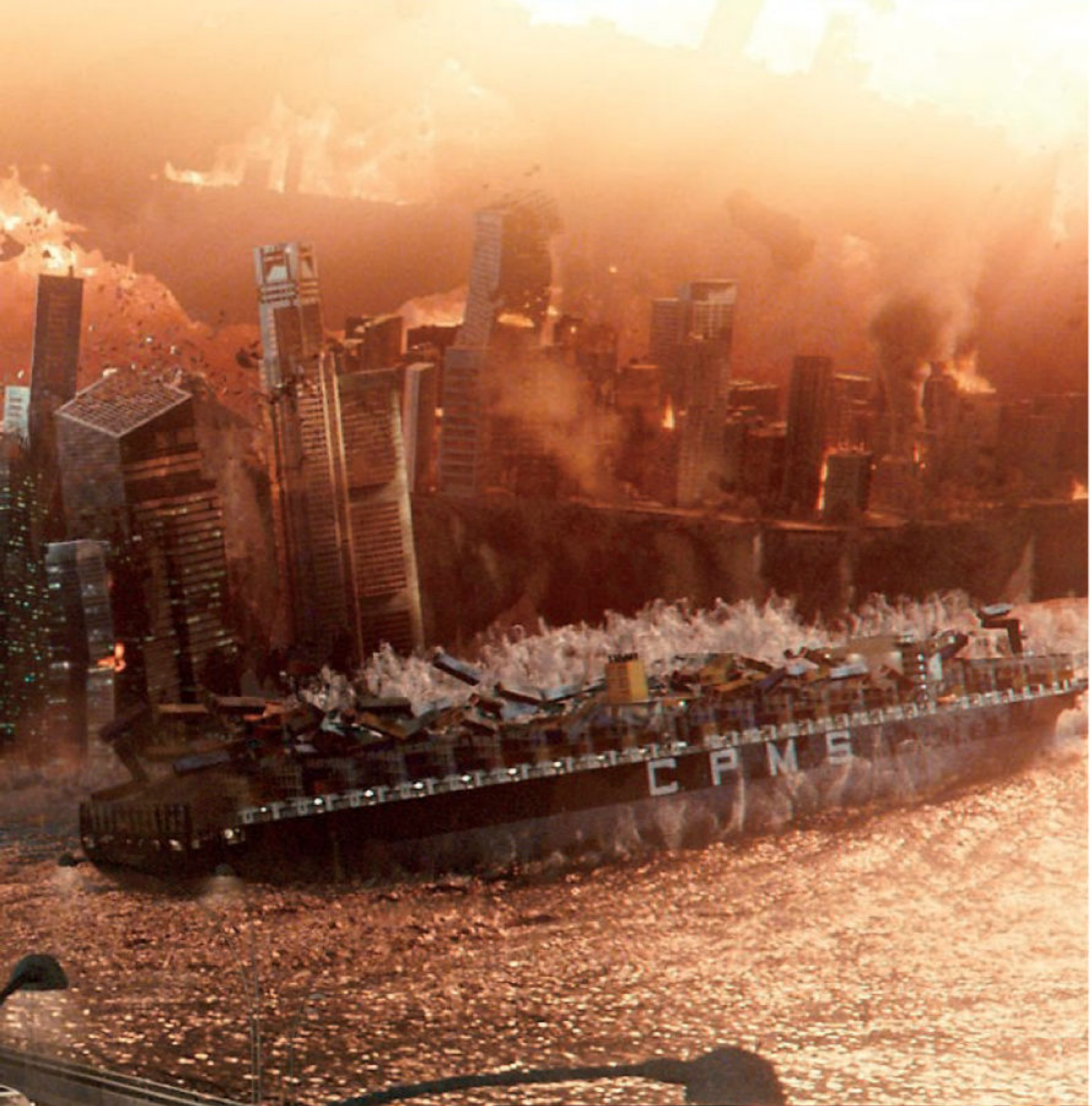
GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JUNE
24

DIRECTED BY
Roland Emmerich

**IN ROLAND EMMERICH'S ORIGINAL *INDEPENDENCE* ***Day*, spaceships destroyed the great cities of the world—and cemented the filmmaker's rep for global devastation. In *Independence Day: Resurgence*, the aliens return in a mothership and unleash Emmerich's apocalyptic powers on new locales, including Singapore, shown here. "It's not just to blow things up," Emmerich says. "I always pride myself that I want to tell a story point with [destruction]." In this case, it's a socioeconomic one. Emmerich broke it all down for us. —DARREN FRANICH

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → **Will Smith** staked his claim to July 4 weekend in 1996, when *Independence Day* became the biggest alien-invasion movie ever.



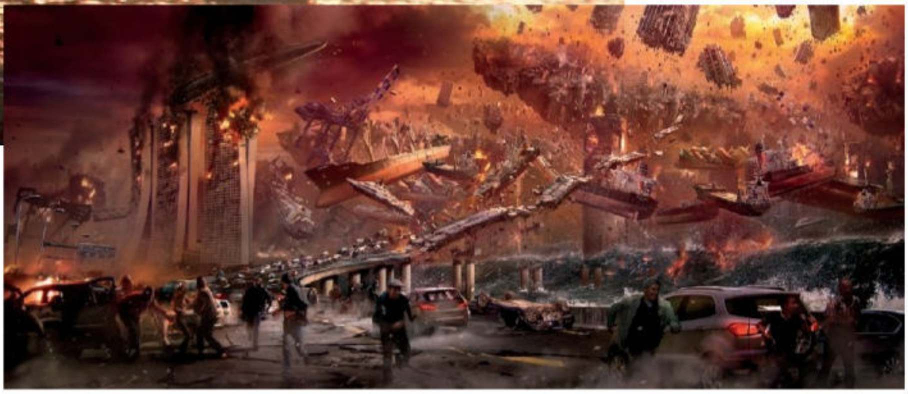
EURASIA OR BUST

The *Resurgence* mothership makes the original *Day* starcraft look wimpy. “The ship is so big, it has its own gravity,” Emmerich says. The destruction of Singapore is part of a larger plan, Emmerich explains, “to suck up Asia and dump it on Europe. That’s a little social commentary, because it’s a bit like what’s happening in our economy.” This scene, he says, “was maybe one or two lines in the script. And then you start to storyboard.”

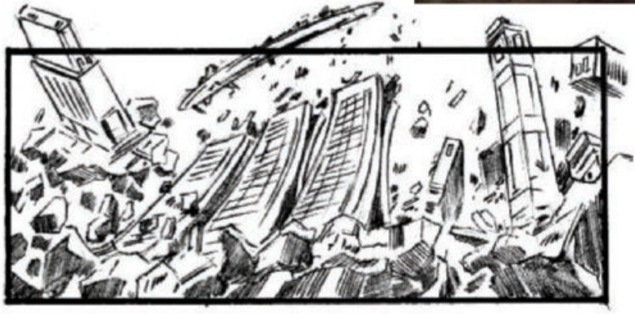
SUPER MODELS

The process of urban carnage has evolved quite a bit in 20 years. The model-based effects in *Independence Day* have given way to the new digital order, Emmerich says: “You can move the camera. You can use bluescreen. Now everything is CGI. Even the people are sometimes CGI.”

Concept art



Storyboard



SHIPPING OUT

After storyboarding, the production team went to Scanline F/X house to construct a previsualized version of the sequence. “We chose Singapore because it’s surrounded by water,” Emmerich says. “We thought that was a cool effect, when you see ships and boats in the harbor getting lifted off.”

NEED FOR SPEED

As Emmerich filmed scenes with an actor, his stunt coordinator, John Stoneham Jr., put a team in cables to film the stunt element. “It was shot in four or five hours,” says Emmerich. “We had to shoot the movie real fast, less than 80 days.”

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX (3)

THE SHOT

THE SHALLOWS

STARRING
Blake Lively

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Jaume Collet-Serra

RELEASE DATE
JUNE
24

THERE ARE A LOT OF BUMMERS THAT CAN HAPPEN while on vacation. Rain. Sunburn. Food poisoning. But being trapped in the ocean and stalked by a 20-foot great white? The worst. And that's exactly what happens to Blake Lively's Nancy, a young woman grieving the death of her mother and surfing alone off a secluded South Pacific island beach. She unknowingly paddles into a feeding ground, is wounded in the shark's first strike, and takes refuge on a nearby rock island. "The tide is gonna rise back up and kick

Blake Lively

ALSO PLAYING

SWISS ARMY MAN

JUNE 17

A despondent castaway (Paul Dano) finds a renewed reason to live after a corpse (Daniel Radcliffe) floats ashore on his island, sparking a friendship and potential rescue.

TICKLED

JUNE 17

A journalist investigating an underground tickling endurance competition uncovers a conspiracy with unpredictably dark twists and turns in this Sundance documentary.

HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE

JUNE 24

A rap-loving city kid (Julian Dennison) and his crabby new foster dad (Sam Neill) become unlikely outlaws in bucolic New Zealand in this road comedy from *Thor: Ragnarok* director Taika Waititi.

THE PHENOM

JUNE 24

After stumbling in the majors, a demoted pitcher (Johnny Simmons) sits down with a shrink (Paul Giamatti), who digs up deep-seated issues between the rookie and his father (Ethan Hawke).

THE NEON DEMON

JUNE TBD

A hive of vain, youth-stealing L.A. women prey on a naive aspiring model (Elle Fanning) in Nicolas Winding Refn's (*Drive*) horror film. Keanu Reeves and Christina Hendricks costar. —**WILL ROBINSON** her off," says director Jaume Collet-Serra (*Non-Stop*). "And she has to figure out what to do."

Eventually, Nancy clings to a nearby buoy and makes a climactic stand against the man-eater, which was created entirely through CG. "She's on the last inch of her life," says Collet-Serra. "Basically it's the turn when she decides to go from being a survivor to a fighter."

Lively (*The Age of Adaline*) has the real battle scars to prove it. At one point, waves sent her flying face-first into the buoy. "It cracked my nose, and blood was pouring out," she says. "I'm very proud of my bloody nose." Lively says *The Shallows* tries to be more than just another shark movie. "It's really a story of us all trying to survive on this planet," she says. "What I really liked about this is that it wasn't just Bikini vs. Monster." She pauses. "But you still get a little bikini, and you still get a little monster." Something for everyone! —**TIM STACK**

THE NEON DEMON: GUNTHER CAMPINE; *THE SHALLOWS*: VINCE VALITUTTI; *NOW YOU SEE ME 2*: JAY MAIDMENT; *WARCRAFT*: LEGENDARY PICTURES AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Woody Harrelson, Dave Franco, Daniel Radcliffe, Lizzy Caplan, and Jesse Eisenberg

NOW YOU SEE ME 2

RELEASE DATE
JUNE
10

STARRING
Jesse Eisenberg, Daniel Radcliffe, Lizzy Caplan

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Jon M. Chu

THE FOUR HORSEMEN ARE BACK, THIS time facing a wealthy recluse and failed magician played by none other than Harry Potter himself, Daniel Radcliffe. But for their big return, the illusionists found themselves missing one member. Isla Fisher's pregnancy kept her sidelined, but Lizzy Caplan (*Masters of Sex*) stepped in. Her character, Lula, is all about gross-out tricks—and the cast veterans welcomed her appropriately. "There was hazing for being the new person," Caplan says. "Thankfully, we all have the exact same sense of humor, which is on par with a 9-year-old boy." —**KEVIN P. SULLIVAN**

Travis Fimmel

WARCRAFT

RELEASE DATE
JUNE
10

STARRING
Travis Fimmel, Paula Patton, Dominic Cooper

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Duncan Jones

VIDEOGAME ADAPTATIONS HAVE A tainted reputation, but director Duncan Jones (*Moon*) wants to change that. His fantasy epic based on the popular Tolkienesque game tells the story of an orc invasion of the human realm from both sides, which makes for a more complex adventure. "What *Warcraft* has is players being able to be the hero, no matter what side they're on," Jones says. "We wanted to tell a story that allowed the audience to feel the same way: that there is a potential for heroes on all sides." So get ready for swords, sorcery, and some moral relativism. —**KEVIN P. SULLIVAN**

JULY

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → In summer 1984 the original *Ghostbusters*, starring **Bill Murray**, opened at No. 1, stayed there for six more weeks, and broke records as the highest-

COMING *this* MONTH

The Secret Life of Pets .... P. 73
The Legend of Tarzan ..... P. 73
Jason Bourne .... P. 74
Star Trek Beyond .... P. 76
Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie........................ P. 77
Bad Moms........................ P. 78
Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates .... P. 79
Ice Age: Collision Course... P. 80
The Purge: Election Year ... P. 80
The BFG .... P. 80

Melissa McCarthy, Kate McKinnon, Kristen Wiig, and Leslie Jones

GHOSTBUSTERS

STARRING
Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon, Leslie Jones

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JULY 15

DIRECTED BY
Paul Feig

grossing comedy at the time.

***BRIDESMAIDS* DIRECTOR PAUL FEIG TURNED** down repeated offers from Sony to make a new *Ghostbusters* movie before he finally said yes. Despite his high regard for the 1984 classic and some promising script concepts, the idea of directing a straight sequel some 30 years after Bill Murray & Co. first crossed the streams just didn't appeal to him. "I like *origin* stories," he says. "I want to see [the characters] figure it out. I want to come into a world that hasn't seen ghosts yet, that hasn't had a massive attack on New York City, that doesn't have proton packs and all that."

So he proposed a reboot the best way he knew how: with four funny women in the starring roles. This wouldn't be Dr. Petunia Venkman or Dr. Rae Stantz, but rather four unique female characters with a penchant for both science and humor. Sony agreed. "This is a giant tentpole film starring four women, three of them in their 40s," he says. "I don't want to say it's a big deal, but it's not what's normally done. I'm proud of that."

Feig cast his go-to ladies Melissa McCarthy and Kristen Wiig as Abby Yates and Erin Gilbert, two scientists who wrote a book on ghosts during their college years but have since grown apart—Abby remains a true believer while Erin pretends she isn't in order to advance her academic career at Columbia University. "She wants to succeed as a professor in the world of science and the paranormal isn't really part of that," says Wiig. "She's choosing the safer road."

Wiig and Gertrude the Ghost (Bess Rous)

But once all sorts of poltergeists invade New York City, Erin reluctantly joins forces with Abby and her colleague Jillian Holtzmann (Kate McKinnon), an oddball nuclear engineer who becomes responsible for designing their high-tech gear.

To McKinnon, Jillian was a kindred spirit. "When I was a kid, I was obsessed with science and circuit boards and taking apart electronics," she says. "When I got on the set and it was littered with circuit boards, it felt really close to home. This is me! I'm just playing myself with cooler accessories." Adding to that familiar feel is McKinnon's *Saturday Night Live* colleague Leslie Jones, who plays Patty Tolan, the transit employee with an encyclopedic knowledge of NYC. In Feig's mind, Jones landed the role the moment he saw her first stint on *SNL*'s "Weekend Update." "It was like getting hit in my head with a rock," he says. "I remember saying to my wife, 'That's *her*, that's one of our Ghostbusters.'"

With four improv masters, nailing the funny was easy. It was the physical tasks that proved a bit more daunting, especially with sizable proton packs strapped to their backs. "They were big, heavy packs with sharp corners; we ran into each other a bunch," says Wiig with a laugh. Mix those packs in with carefully orchestrated fight sequences and it's a wonder they all made it out alive. "I like to freestyle dance, but I'm unable to perform choreographed movement," McKinnon says. "The stunt stuff was hard. I didn't want to look like the uncoordinated mess that I am in real life."

But none of that seemed to dampen the women's enthusiasm. "Ghostbusters to me are the best kind of superhero," McKinnon says. "You don't have to be born to fly or anything. You can just have some heart, some desire to do good, and you can be a Ghostbuster. We felt just like superheroes." Superheroes with the power to make you belly-laugh. —NICOLE SPERLING

> "
> **THIS IS A GIANT TENTPOLE FILM** *STARRING FOUR WOMEN, THREE OF THEM IN THEIR 40S*. **I'M PROUD OF THAT."** —PAUL FEIG

(PREVIOUS SPREAD) HOPPER STONE, SMPSP; (THIS SPREAD) *GHOSTBUSTERS*: SONY PICTURES; *THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS*: ILLUMINATION ENTERTAINMENT AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES; *THE LEGEND OF TARZAN*: JONATHAN OLLEY

THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS

RELEASE DATE
JULY
08

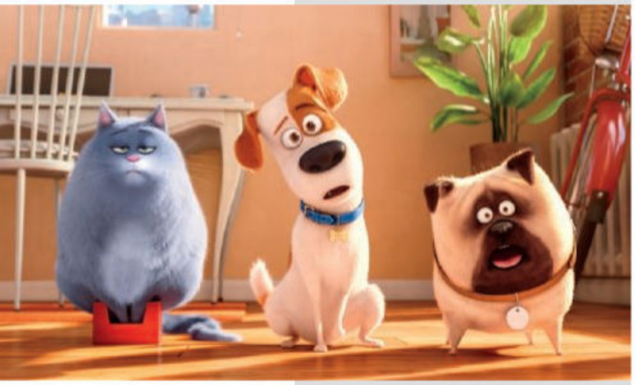
STARRING
**Louis C.K.,
Eric Stonestreet,
Kevin Hart**

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Chris Renaud

DOGS AND CATS RUN RAMPANT through New York City in the newest 3-D endeavor from the animation studio behind *Despicable Me*. The movie examines the unseen foibles of metropolitan fauna in the city that never sleeps… or spays, for that matter. Leading the ensemble (which includes Kevin Hart as an abominable rabbit) is Louis C.K.'s devoted pup, Max, whose cushy life is devastated when his owner rescues an oafish mongrel named Duke (Eric Stonestreet). "I loved his little underbite and his big furry face and body," Stonestreet recalls of the first time he saw Duke. "I just thought, oh my God, I'd love to get my hands on that character." One slight correction: We believe the proper term is "paws." —MARC SNETIKER

Chloe (Lake Bell), Max (Louis C.K.), and Mel (Bobby Moynihan)



Alexander Skarsgård

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN

STARRING
**Alexander Skarsgård,
Margot Robbie,
Christoph Waltz**

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JULY
01

DIRECTED BY
David Yates

AFTER FOUR HARRY Potter movies, director David Yates knew his next project had to be something unexpected. "I wanted to go into the dark and go somewhere I hadn't been for a very long time," he says. To his surprise, he found that sense of originality and epic adventure in a story that's more than a century old: the tale of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes.

Instead of focusing on the famed jungle dweller's origin story, Yates' version picks up in England, where the former Tarzan (Alexander Skarsgård) has married Jane (Margot Robbie) and has settled into aristocratic privilege as Lord Greystoke. But when he's lured back to the Congo as a trade emissary, he's drawn into a colonialist conspiracy that threatens both his new life and his old home. Skarsgård spent months training to build up muscle and working with a choreographer to show Tarzan's transformation from staunch, upper-class Englishman to vine-swinging wild man. "It's something that I think we all deal with in modern-day society: that duality, that dichotomy of human versus beast," Skarsgård says. Welcome to the jungle indeed.
—DEVAN COGGAN

THE SHOT

JASON BOURNE

RELEASE DATE	STARRING	GENRE
JULY 29	**Matt Damon, Alicia Vikander, Tommy Lee Jones**	
	DIRECTED BY Paul Greengrass	

MATT DAMON HASN'T played Jason Bourne since 2007's *The Bourne Ultimatum*, but he quickly makes up for lost time, kicking off his long-awaited return with an adrenaline-fueled chase set during an austerity riot in Athens. "It's the kind of action sequence you can only see in a *Bourne* movie," says returning director Paul Greengrass. "It marries action with a really intense, emotionally truthful next chapter in the Jason Bourne story."

Greengrass thought he said goodbye to Bourne nine years ago, but Damon convinced him that audiences craved a comeback, and together they brainstormed an adventure that sees Bourne reunite with sympathetic spook Nicky (Julia Stiles). "Life out in the cold isn't working for either of them," Damon says. "Nicky uses the riot for cover to meet with him,

EW.COM
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SUMMER SPLASHBACK → *The Bourne Identity*, starring **Matt Damon**, opened at No. 2 in summer 2002, grossing barely half as much as *Scooby-Doo*, but the assassin

but she gets followed, and that sets the plot in motion."

The world has changed significantly since the superspy last appeared on the big screen, by way of new leaders and looming threats. "For Bourne, that's a good landscape to emerge in," Greengrass says. With the Canary Islands standing in for Athens, a crowd of hundreds of locals—who learned Greek phrases ahead of the 25-day shoot—played ardent activists. "Never for one second did I not feel like I was in the middle of some austerity riot," Damon says.

Not that Bourne can't handle it. He might be older, but Damon arrived on set in the best shape of his life. And he needs a bike that can keep up—which is why he seizes this custom ride from one of the goons on his tail. Damon pulled off the high-risk caper with the help of stuntman Paul Edmondson. "He does all the stuff that is life-threatening that I could never get insured for, and quite frankly, would never do," Damon says. "Mostly because I'd just look terrified while doing it." —NINA TERRERO

survived to fight another day.

JASON BOURNE: UNIVERSAL PICTURES; *THE INFILTRATOR:* LIAM DANIEL

ALSO PLAYING

OUR KIND OF TRAITOR

JULY 1

An English couple (Ewan McGregor, Naomie Harris) become caught in an international scandal when a shady friend ensnares them in espionage. Adapted from the John le Carré novel.

CAPTAIN FANTASTIC

JULY 8

Viggo Mortensen has purposely raised his six children off the grid in the Pacific Northwest, but when tragedy strikes, he and his family must step back into modern society.

LIFE, ANIMATED

JULY 8

Oscar-winning documentarian Roger Ross Williams (*Music by Prudence*) depicts how a passion for Disney animated films helped an autistic young man learn to communicate with his family.

EQUALS

JULY 15

Nia (Kristen Stewart) and Silas (Nicholas Hoult) are co-workers who run afoul of a futuristic metropolis where emotions like love have been outlawed as barriers to progress.

THE INFILTRATOR

JULY 15

A federal agent (Bryan Cranston) poses as a money launderer to crack Pablo Escobar's inner circle. Based on a true story.

Q&A

IDRIS ELBA

STAR TREK **BEYOND**

STARRING
Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Idris Elba

DIRECTED BY
Justin Lin

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JULY
22

ALONGSIDE HIS acclaimed roles in *Beasts of No Nation* and on the series *Luther*, Idris Elba has spent his summers in blockbuster fare like *Thor*, *Prometheus*, and *Pacific Rim*. This year, Elba, 43, takes on the crew of the *Enterprise*—and the whole damn Federation—as the big bad in *Star Trek Beyond*. Some details about the character remain top secret, but the actor still had *a lot* to say.
—DARREN FRANICH

Your character has been shrouded in mystery.
I play Krall. This is a man with a definite purpose. I say a man, but he's not a man. Or is he?

Is he a Gorn?
No.

So he's from a new species in the Star Trek universe?
Yes. A character who's steeped in hatred—in my opinion, a well-earned hatred—for the Federation. It felt quite political.

You have a great line in the trailer: "This is where the frontier pushes back." That's a real refutation of the Federation.
There are purists who believe in independence and will fight tooth and nail to defend that. Not everybody's happy with what everybody calls the good guys.

Some *Star Trek* bad guys are physical threats, and then there are people like Khan who give all kinds of great megalomaniacal speeches. Does Krall fall into one of those traditions?
Krall is predatory. He's not one for big speeches. He is one for going to get what he wants.

Krall's look is fascinating. What was it like working under all that makeup?
My day would start at 4:15 in the morning. I'd be in the chair until around 7:30, [then we'd] shoot about 8:30. Shoot until around nine at night, maybe later. Get home, get to sleep, and then wake up in the morning and do the whole thing again. I'm claustrophobic, by the way. I don't like rubber masks on my face.

Did you have a favorite *Star Trek* character growing up?
My favorite character was Clark Kent. Clark Kent? [*Laughs*] Sorry, different show! Captain Kirk was my favorite. Kirk was just smooth, man! There was nothing fazing him.

What is Krall's relationship like with Kirk in *Beyond*?
Jaws and Dory.

Is there a possibility that you will return for the next film?
I can't imagine at this point what else could happen for this character. I think, after this film, you don't want me to return.

Chris Pine and Idris Elba in *Star Trek Beyond*

STAR TREK BEYOND: KIMBERLEY FRENCH; ELBA: GAVIN BOND/THE TIMES/NEWS SYNDICATION; *ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS: THE MOVIE*: DAVID APPLEBY

Joanna Lumley and Jennifer Saunders

ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS: THE MOVIE

RELEASE DATE
JULY 22

STARRING
Jennifer Saunders, Joanna Lumley, Julia Sawalha

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Mandie Fletcher

EDINA (JENNIFER SAUNDERS) AND Patsy (Joanna Lumley), who never met a fashion trend (or drug) they didn't like during a boozy run on British TV, finally bring their hangover-inducing antics to the big screen. The film finds the London-based duo broke and off to the South of France to try to get their mojo back. But other than their financial and geographic statuses, not much else has changed. Teases director Mandie Fletcher (*Deadly Advice*), "Even when the champagne runs out, they'll swig out of Chanel No. 5 bottles just to get that little bit of alcohol." Well, that's something you won't see in *Finding Dory*. —TIM STACK

ALSO PLAYING

LIGHTS OUT

JULY 22

When a terrifying force returns to haunt her mother and little brother at night, Rebecca (Teresa Palmer) comes home to uncover the mystery of the spirit that is threatening them.

DON'T THINK TWICE

JULY 22

Mike Birbiglia directs and stars in a comedy about an improv troupe whose members' friendships are shaken when only two of the six are recruited for a bigger stage.

EQUITY

JULY 29

Breaking Bad alum Anna Gunn tries to smash the glass ceiling at a ruthless Wall Street investment bank, but she encounters corruption and betrayal when she tries to take a social-media firm public.

INDIGNATION

JULY 29

Logan Lerman stars as the 1950s Jewish college student from Philip Roth's 2008 book whose crush on a troubled classmate (Sarah Gadon) and conflict with authority place him at risk of the Army draft.

—WILL ROBINSON

Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, and Kathryn Hahn

THE SHOT

BAD MOMS

RELEASE DATE
JULY 29

STARRING
Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn

GENRE
☺

DIRECTED BY
Jon Lucas and Scott Moore

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Michael Keaton was a hilarious failure as a stay-at-home dad, and **Mr. Mom** cleaned up at the box

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
JULY
2016

THE MODERN MOTHER IS under a lot of pressure to have the ideal everything—kids, career, home, body, homemade crafts, etc. "You know what? F--- Pinterest," says Mila Kunis with a laugh. "Everything looks perfect in a photograph. Let's lift the veil on motherhood!" Directors Jon Lucas and Scott Moore (who co-wrote *The Hangover*) penned this script—about three mothers who decide to break from convention and find matriarchal freedom—as a valentine to their own wives. In the scene shown here, Kunis and her two cohorts, played by Kristen Bell and Kathryn Hahn, hang out for the first time...and not exactly soberly. ("They show up hot, as it were," says Moore. "They've had a few.") What follows is a wilding at the grocery store. "We ran aisle by aisle and did the stupidest things," Kunis says. "It was really fun but maybe not as much for Kathryn, who had to pour mudslides all over herself. No matter how you manipulate the look of a mudslide, it's still sticky." At one point, Hahn even grabbed a giant ham off the shelf and threw it across the room. "Our production is so great that they took the ham and baked it, and 30 minutes later we had a snack," says Kunis. It's nice to have someone pick up after you and cook, too. —SARA VILKOMERSON

office in the summer of 1983.

LIGHTS OUT: RON BATZDORFF; *EQUITY*: SONY PICTURES CLASSICS; *BAD MOMS*: MICHELE K. SHORT; *MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES*: GEMMA LAMANA

Adam Devine and Zac Efron

MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES

RELEASE DATE
JULY
8

STARRING
Zac Efron, Anna Kendrick, Adam Devine

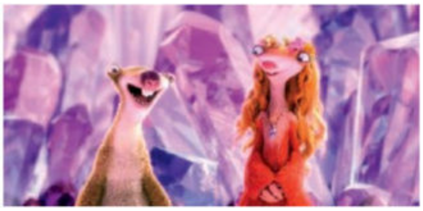
DIRECTED BY
Jake Szymanski

GENRE

MIKE AND DAVE STANGLE (ADAM Devine and Zac Efron) are knucklehead brothers who are pressured by their family to bring respectable dates to their sister's Hawaiian wedding. Their solution: Place an online ad to screen candidates. Enter Tatiana and Alice (Aubrey Plaza and Anna Kendrick), who appear, at first blush, to fit the nice-girl bill. In fact, they're even bigger hell-raisers than the bros. "These guys are wild party animals, and they found two girls who are out-Mike-and-Dave-ing them," says Devine (ABC's *Modern Family*).

With neither pair willing to blink from a challenge, things escalate quickly. "Drugs are involved, lots of crime, lots of lusting," Devine says. "After an ATV tire smashes my bride sister's face in, that's the real kickoff to things going pretty crazy." Director Jake Szymanski (*7 Days in Hell*) promises plenty of mayhem and inappropriate behavior. "There's something that involves a stable of horses, and I think the world will find out the true meaning of the word *push pop*," he says. Hmm. Nothing in this wedding comedy may be borrowed, but it's definitely going to be blue. —C. MOLLY SMITH

Sid (John Leguizamo) and Brooke (Jessie J)



ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

RELEASE DATE
JULY
22

STARRING
Ray Romano, John Leguizamo

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Michael Thurmeier

AN ASTEROID IS HEADED FOR EARTH! But it won't spell the end of the *Ice Age* gang, thanks to an astrophysicist weasel voiced by science guru Neil deGrasse Tyson. "We were mining him for information for whatever scientific plausibility we could put into...mammoths stopping an asteroid," says director Michael Thurmeier. Despite the impending doom, love defines the fifth film in the franchise: Mammoth Peaches (Keke Palmer) will get married, and Sid (John Leguizamo) will find romance with a fellow sloth played by singer Jessie J. So, this *Ice* is definitely on fire. —MARC SNETIKER

Frank Grillo and Elizabeth Mitchell (right)

THE PURGE: ELECTION YEAR

RELEASE DATE
JULY
01

STARRING
Frank Grillo, Elizabeth Mitchell, Kyle Secor

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
James DeMonaco

THIS THREEQUEL FINDS FRANCHISE vet Frank Grillo's Leo Barnes guarding a presidential candidate (Elizabeth Mitchell), whose determination to end the annual night of sanctioned lawlessness puts her life in jeopardy. "It was illegal to kill elected officials," says Grillo. "They actually erased that law so they can assassinate this woman." That's crazy. But is writer-director James DeMonaco's film more insane than 2016's real-life presidential race? "No!" laughs the filmmaker. "The Purge is one night, and then it's over. The election—it's *months* of madness now." —CLARK COLLIS

ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE: BLUE SKY STUDIOS; *THE PURGE: ELECTION YEAR*: MICHELE K. SHORT; *THE BFG*: DISNEY; RYLANCE: KARWAI TANG/WIREIMAGE.COM

BREAKING (REALLY, REALLY) BIG

THE BFG

STARRING
Ruby Barnhill, Mark Rylance

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
JULY
01

DIRECTED BY
Steven Spielberg

MOST ADULTS eventually figure out that loneliness and bullying don't stop when you get big. That's also true when you're *really* big, as in the case of the humongous title character in Steven Spielberg's adaptation of Roald Dahl's 1982 children's novel. *The BFG* is the story of a big, friendly giant who befriends a clever, curious orphan girl named Sophie—

then has to protect her from even more colossal rival giants who mock and torment him. Like many other gargantuan storybook monsters, those other giants love to devour children, but the BFG is a strict vegetarian. He subsists on boat-size snozzcumbers, which are just revolting enough to make cannibalism seem like an understandable option.

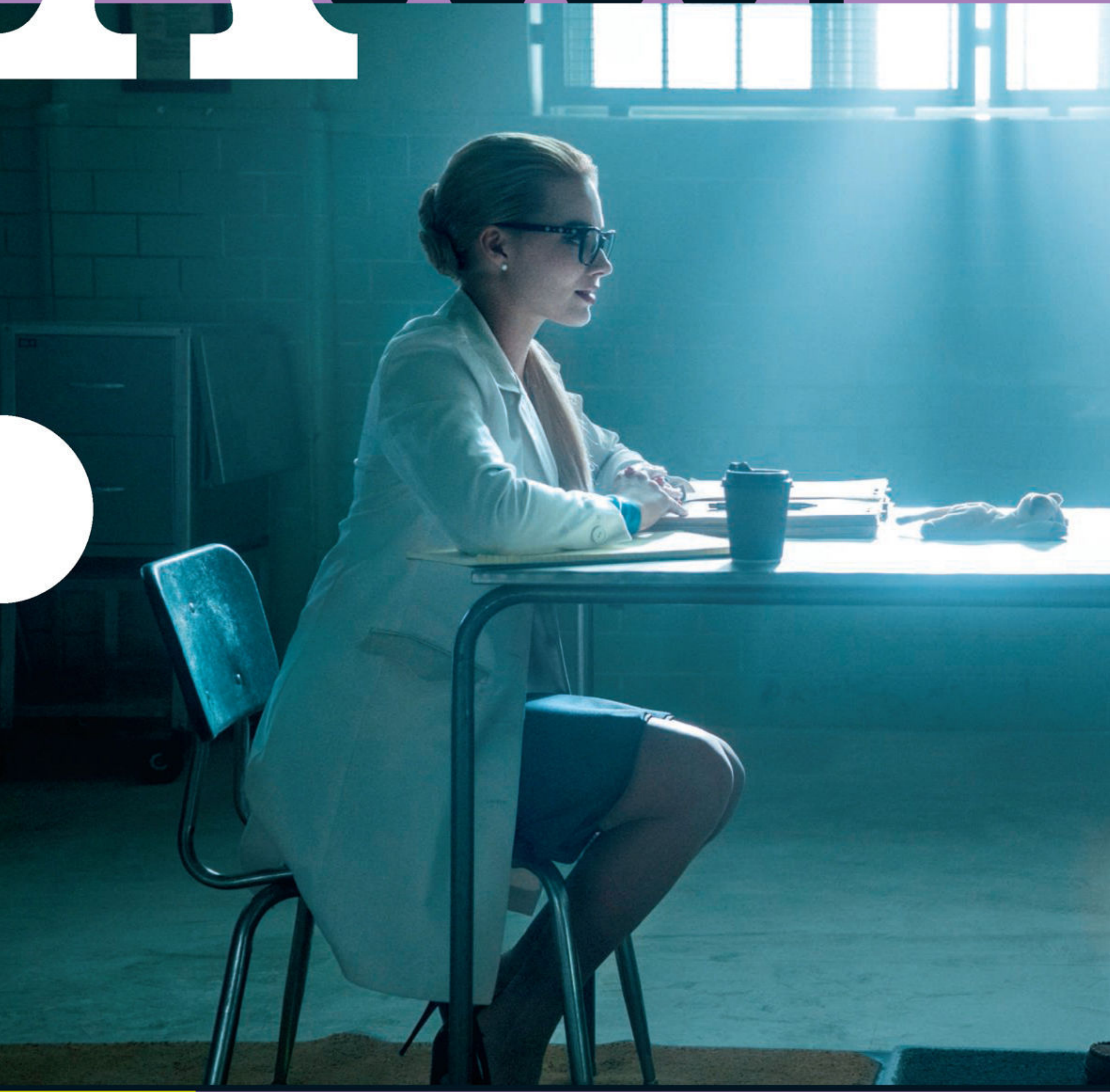
The film is the final collaboration between Spielberg and *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* screenwriter Melissa Mathison, who passed away from cancer in November after finishing work on the film. Like their previous movie about a young child and a lost alien, *The BFG* is a story of unexpected friendship. Although the giant's dilemma is equal parts macabre and whimsical, it's really about the isolation that comes from doing the right thing.

"I think he is lonely because he doesn't want to take part in the eating of children," says Mark Rylance, who performed the giant by way of motion capture. "The heart of the story is a platonic love story between two very lonely people—a kind of grandfather figure and a granddaughter figure—made more extreme." The giant even looks a lot like Rylance, who recently won the Supporting Actor Oscar for Spielberg's previous film, *Bridge of Spies*. Of course, there are significant differences: The character is 24 feet tall and has ears the size of tubas.

Producers Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall first started developing the movie in the early 1990s, with plans for Robin Williams to take the giant role, but it proved to be too hard to pull off technologically. Why'd they stick with it for so long? "When you find a story that speaks so profoundly to adults as it does to children, it operates on two different levels," Kennedy says. "That happens especially when you're an adult and you're recalling something that is rather primal and profound." The message in this one: When someone big protects you, it makes you want to stand a little taller for somebody else.
—ANTHONY BREZNICAN

Mark Rylance (and above as the BFG with Ruby Barnhill)

AUGUST



SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Comic-book villains don't always work at the box office. In summer 2004 **Catwoman** opened at No. 3 and never recovered from brutal reviews.

COMING *this* MONTH

Florence Foster Jenkins .... P. 85
Sausage Party .... P. 85
Pete's Dragon .... P. 86
The Founder .... P. 87
War Dogs .... P. 88
Kubo and the Two Strings .... P. 89
Southside With You .... P. 89
Ben-Hur .... P. 90

Margot Robbie and Jared Leto

Bad kitty!

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW ★ 2016 ★

SUICIDE SQUAD

STARRING
Will Smith, Jared Leto, Margot Robbie

GENRE
✸

RELEASE DATE
AUG 05

DIRECTED BY
David Ayer

SUICIDE SQUAD

Jay Hernandez, Jai Courtney, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Margot Robbie, Will Smith, Joel Kinnaman, and Karen Fukuhara

BAD GUYS HAVE ALL THE FUN, AND IN DAVID Ayer's *Suicide Squad*, DC's most vile comic-book villains get to throw explosive boomerangs, shoot bullets from their wrists, and wield a soul-taking sword all in the name of earning time off for "good" behavior. Deadshot (Will Smith), Diablo (Jay Hernandez), Harley Quinn (Margot Robbie), Captain Boomerang (Jai Courtney), Killer Croc (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje), and Slipknot (Adam Beach) are recruited from their prison cells by nefarious government agent Amanda Waller (Viola Davis). Nanite bombs are injected into their necks, and they're dropped into a deserted Midway City with squad leader Col. Rick Flag (Joel Kinnaman) to complete a top secret mission that turns deadly.

Complicating their efforts is the at-large Joker (Jared Leto), a punk psychopath–turned–gangster determined to preserve his twisted love affair with his psychiatrist-turned-protégée, Harley. Levels of deviousness are celebrated in this rare superhero film that asks the question: Can someone bad do something good? "The beauty of this project for me is taking these characters, literally, out of their prison, their emotional exile, and turning them into a highly dysfunctional family," says Ayer, whose films (*Fury*, *End of Watch*) often traffic in murky morality.

To help this cast of baddies bond, he threw them into around five weeks of mandatory camaraderie on the Toronto set of the film. Think part group therapy, part boot camp. "It's not just about reading lines," Ayer says about the intensive prep. "It's about opening up to one another and getting them to trust one another."

Accomplishing that was far from painless. As Harley, Joker's psycho squeeze, Robbie endured shocking surprise gifts from Leto (including the much-talked-about live rat that she endearingly named Rat Rat). Then there was the stunt training and the seemingly endless night shoots. But none of that compared to the emotional places Ayer encouraged her to explore. "To work with David, you aren't really doing anything on the surface," says Robbie, whose character does her own fair share of manipulating. "It's all pretty deep. He wants to know about your personal history, your relationships, and your childhood—things you don't really want to tell a stranger. And then you have to share that with the rest of your squad as well. I really didn't like that."

What she did love was working opposite the eccentric and earnest Leto, who went off-the-rails deep as he created his version of a villain who has already been etched into cinema history by two acting icons. While the rest of the crew bonded, Leto remained isolated, steeping himself in the comics, meeting with psychiatrists and psychopaths—all to create a Joker that felt different. "I think the Joker lives in between reality and another plane, kind of a shaman in a way," Leto says. "It's a very intoxicating role. You have permission to break rules and to challenge yourself and anyone around you in a really unique way."

Leto took that mantra to heart, sending his costars a variety of odd gifts—from the rat to a dead pig to a handful of bullets—while he remained sequestered from them. It kept the cast on their toes. "They must have thought I was completely f---in' crazy," Leto says. "But I know this: Every time I walked on the set, I saw a lot of smiles. I was happy to make everyone smile." Pause. "Even if I had to cut their tongues out."

—NICOLE SPERLING

> “ **I THINK THE JOKER LIVES** *IN BETWEEN REALITY AND ANOTHER PLANE.* **IT'S A VERY INTOXICATING ROLE."** —JARED LETO

(PREVIOUS SPREAD AND THIS PAGE) CLAY ENOS (2); (OPPOSITE PAGE) *FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS*: NICK WALL; *SAUSAGE PARTY*: COLUMBIA PICTURES

FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS

STARRING
Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant, Simon Helberg

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
AUG
12

DIRECTED BY
Stephen Frears

BRITISH FILMMAKER STEPHEN FREARS (*Philomena*) faced the ultimate challenge: Get Meryl Streep to deliver a bad performance. The three-time Oscar winner plays Jenkins, the real-life 1940s New York socialite and wannabe opera singer who couldn't carry a tune but whose paramour (Hugh Grant) used their wealth and status to stage elaborate performances for her anyway. Fortunately for Frears, Streep is such a talented vocalist that she can even pull off a terrible one. "You could only make [this movie] with a good singer," Frears says. "Only if you can sing well can you sing badly." —OLIVER GETTELL

Meryl Streep

SAUSAGE PARTY

RELEASE DATE
AUG
12

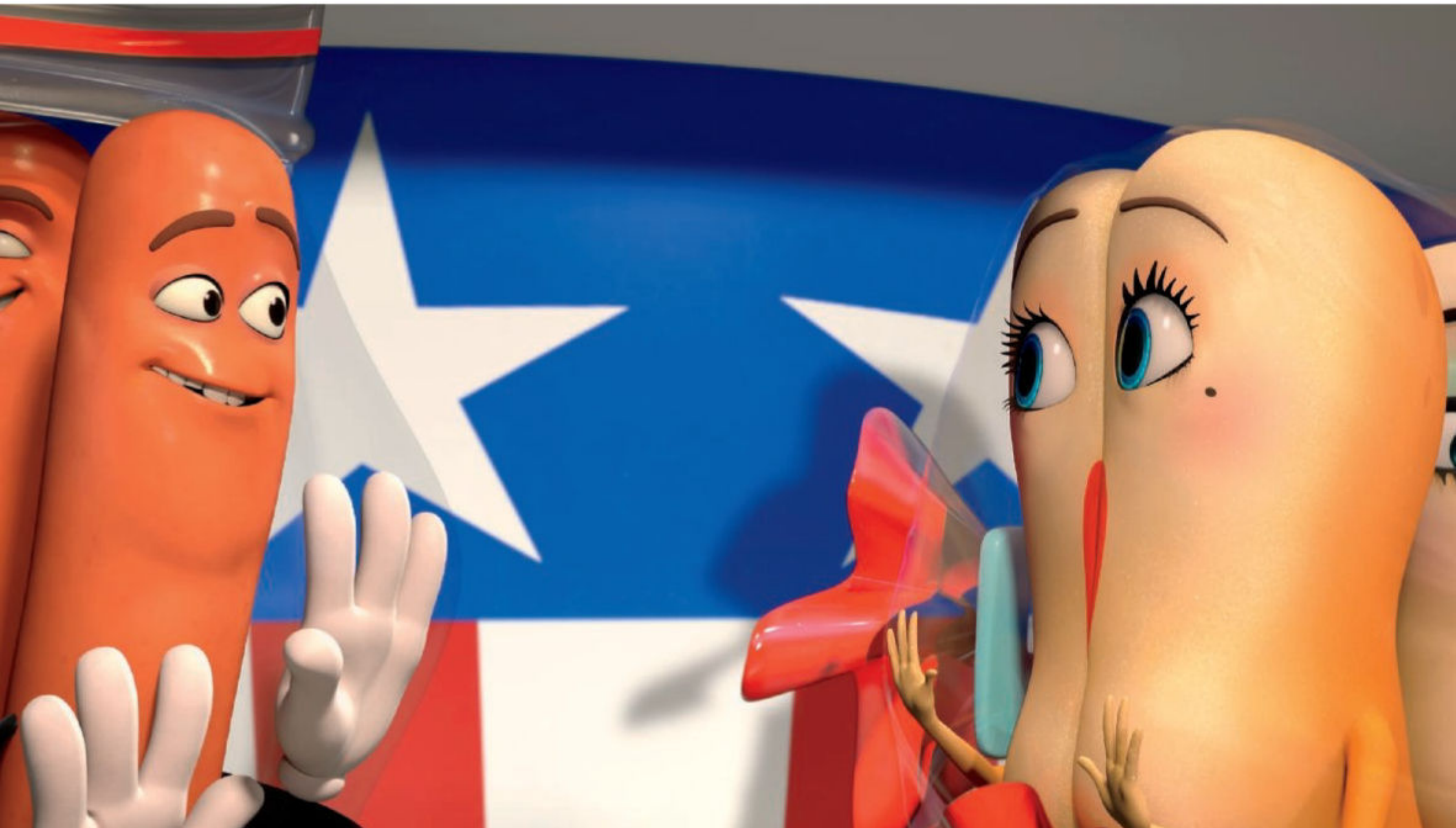
STARRING
Seth Rogen, Edward Norton, Kristen Wiig

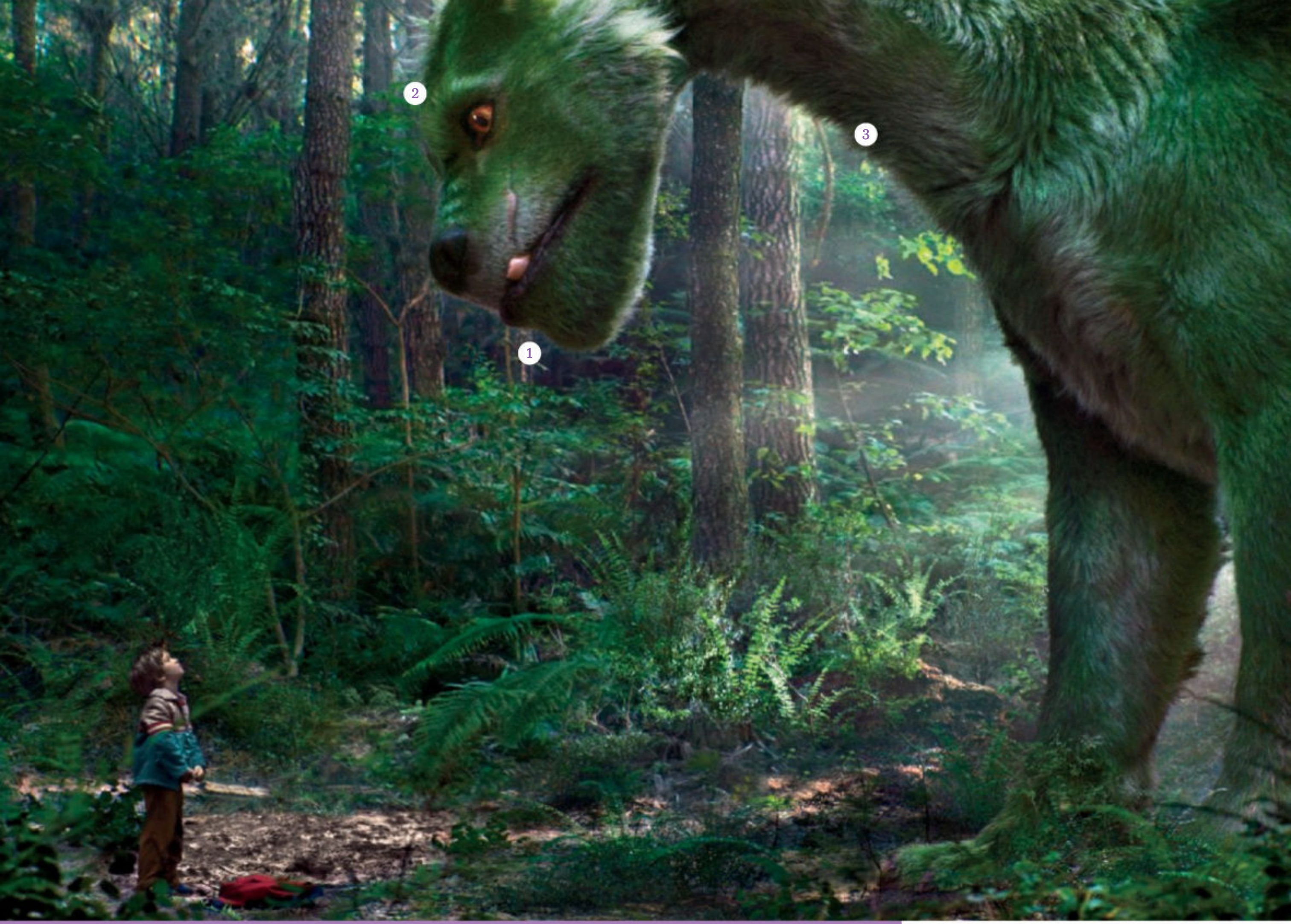
GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Conrad Vernon and Greg Tiernan

YEARS BEFORE SETH ROGEN AND Evan Goldberg made the apocalyptic *This Is the End* and the North Korea-baiting *The Interview*, they had an even wilder idea that no studio wanted to greenlight: an adult animated comedy with talking food. Salma Hayek plays a taco, Kristen Wiig is a hot dog bun, Edward Norton is Sammy Bagel Jr., and Rogen plays Frank, a sausage who lives in a supermarket waiting to be "chosen." "They have been led to believe that when you get purchased, something fantastic happens," Rogen says. Horrible hard-R hilarity ensues when Frank gets purchased and discovers that, well, food gets eaten. The goal was to "function completely as a proper Pixar movie," Goldberg says. (Disney super-composer Alan Menken even contributed music.) "We wanted to make an animated movie that dealt with very adult themes," Rogen says. Adult themes, you say? "A large part of the movie is that the hot dogs, when they get to heaven, finally get to go inside the bun," he laughs. So much for functioning as a *proper* Pixar movie. —DARREN FRANICH

Frank (Seth Rogen) and Brenda (Kristen Wiig)





BEHIND THE CHARACTER

PETE'S DRAGON

RELEASE DATE

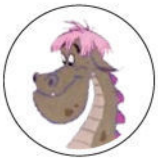
AUG 12

STARRING
Oakes Fegley, Bryce Dallas Howard, Robert Redford

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
David Lowery

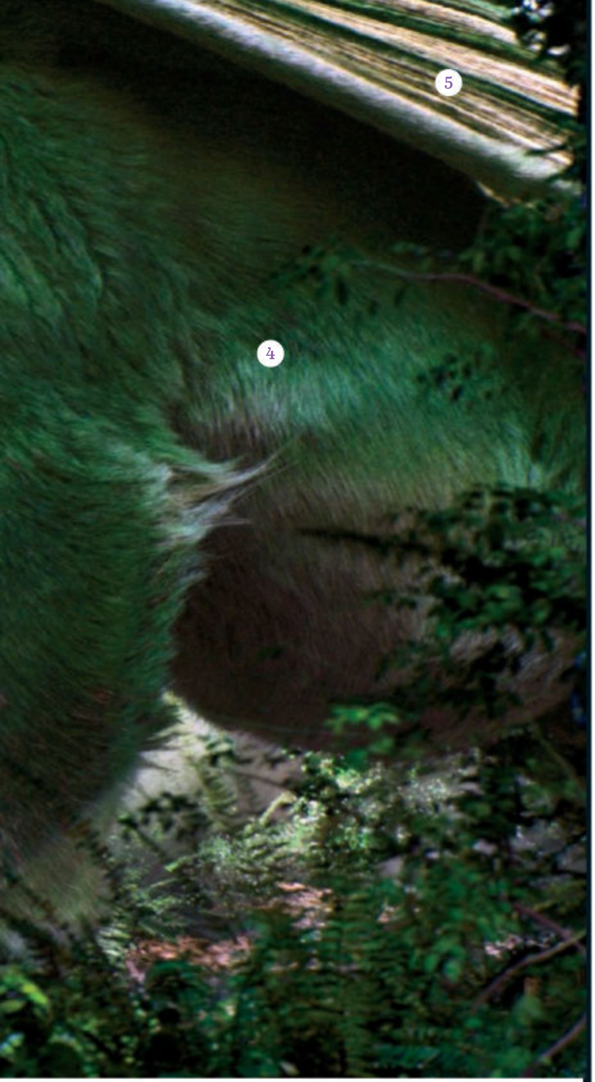
DISNEY'S REMAKE OF THIS 1977 LIVE-action/cartoon hybrid lightly traces the original's plot about a feral orphan, Pete (here played by *Boardwalk Empire*'s Oakes Fegley), and his best friend, a gentle dragon named Elliott. A park ranger (Bryce Dallas Howard) finds the boy, and his stories resemble the tales her father (Robert Redford) told about a mythical beast. To make that beast, director David Lowery and production designer Jade Healy gave their jolly green giant a giant makeover. —MARC SNETIKER



1 ORIGIN STORY

Tubby, goofy Elliott isn't completely gone. "Certain things about the original design we loved: big jaw, big snout, and a clumsy quality that we really wanted to not completely forget," says Lowery, who kept Elliott's signature green hue but bid farewell to those hot pink spikes and haircut. "We explored pink, but in this more photo-real terrain, certain things don't work."

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → Another famous dragon got a makeover in summer 1998, with Roland Emmerich unleashing a new **Godzilla** upon the world. It didn't live up



2 **INNER PANDA**

To nail Elliott's inelegant movements, animators watched hours of funny animal videos. "There's one of a giant panda tumbling in his cave, and we looked at that again and again as our Elliott—this big animal who just doesn't know what to do with his body," says Healy.

3 **TRUNK SHOW**

The remake is not a musical, but sound still plays a big role in Elliott's roar—based on "a little lion, a little tiger, and a little elephant," says Lowery—and a whole range of nonverbal human vocals provided by actor John Kassir, best known for voicing the Crypt Keeper.

4 **DOG DAYS**

The designers swapped medieval and reptilian dragon archetypes for a more canine variety. "Those dragons are more lizardy, but ours has the face and eyes and fur of a big dog," says Healy, citing polar bear fur and orangutan hair as textural inspiration.

5 **FLYING FOX**

Making the thick-furred Elliott soar was a design challenge akin to putting bird wings on your rottweiler. The solution, says Healy, came from an Australian mammal called a flying fox. "He's this very big bat, and he's furry, and he's got these great wings."

PETE'S DRAGON (2016): DISNEY; PETE'S DRAGON (1977): EVERETT COLLECTION;
THE SPACE BETWEEN US: JACK ENGLISH; THE FOUNDER: DANIEL MCFADDEN

to the hype.

ALSO PLAYING

NINE LIVES

AUG. 5

A selfish billionaire (Kevin Spacey) is trapped inside his family cat in order to learn a lesson about what matters in life.

CAFÉ SOCIETY

AUG. 12

Woody Allen reunites Jesse Eisenberg with Kristen Stewart in a romantic comedy set in 1930s Hollywood. Steve Carell, Blake Lively, and Parker Posey also star.

SPECTRAL

AUG. 12

A special-ops team (Emily Mortimer, James Badge Dale) faces its toughest mission yet when it has to neutralize a vicious phantom threat.

KICKBOXER: VENGEANCE

AUG. 19

The circle is complete: Jean-Claude Van Damme is now the master who trains an up-and-coming fighter seeking (gasp!) vengeance against the man (Dave Bautista) who killed his brother in the ring.

THE SPACE BETWEEN US

AUG. 19

The first human born on Mars (Asa Butterfield) develops a long-distance relationship with a Colorado teen (Britt Robertson). Things get serious when he comes to Earth to find his father.

John Carroll Lynch, Nick Offerman, and Michael Keaton

THE FOUNDER

RELEASE DATE
AUG 5

STARRING
Michael Keaton, Laura Dern

GENRE
☹

DIRECTED BY
John Lee Hancock

LONG BEFORE STEVE JOBS AND MARK Zuckerberg maneuvered their way to billion-dollar fortunes, a milk-shake-machine salesman named Ray Kroc transformed a SoCal burger joint called McDonald's into a corporate colossus. "It's kind of *Death of a Salesman* with a very different last act," director John Lee Hancock (*Saving Mr. Banks*) says about his tale of Kroc's ruthless rise to the top. "He saw the future, and he grabbed it with both hands."

For Michael Keaton, it was important to neither lionize nor condemn the polarizing CEO, who cut the McDonald brothers (Nick Offerman and John Carroll Lynch) out of their own business. "If you ask me about his work ethic and his determination, I admire it," Keaton says. "If you ask me about how he made his deals, it's not anywhere near the type of person I want to be."

The film zeroes in on McDonald's early years, which meant the production team had to build several fully functional 1950s restaurants in perfect detail—all the way down to the employees' hats and the logos on the paper cups. "It looked like people could just drive up and get served and move on with their day," says Keaton. And order the first Batman Happy Meal, no doubt. —DEVAN COGGAN

Q&A

JONAH HILL & MILES TELLER

WAR DOGS

RELEASE DATE
AUG
19

STARRING
Jonah Hill,
Miles Teller

GENRE

DIRECTED BY
Todd Phillips

Miles Teller and Jonah Hill in *War Dogs*

IF HOLLYWOOD dreamed up *War Dogs'* plot—about two friends from Miami Beach who win a $300 million U.S. weapons contract—it would be considered too outlandish. But truth really is stranger (not to mention grittier and funnier) than fiction. Based on a 2011 *Rolling Stone* article, this comedic drama, directed by Todd Phillips (*The Hangover*), details the real-life gonzo exploits of Efraim Diveroli (Jonah Hill) and David Packouz (Miles Teller), two amateur arms dealers who bluffed their way into a deal to equip the Afghan military. We chatted with the actors, who bought two tickets to the gun show.
—SARA VILKOMERSON

This story is wild. How aware of it were you before you were cast?

JONAH HILL Years ago I tried to purchase the rights to the *Rolling Stone* article, and Todd [Phillips] had already bought it. So I reached out to him and said, "If you ever make a movie out of this, I'd love to talk about playing Efraim because he is one

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW AUG 2016

bizarre, messed-up character."

MILES TELLER When the news broke that Todd bought the article, my dad emailed me immediately, saying, "You've got to get in this movie."

HILL No way. I didn't know that!

TELLER I saw Todd out at a restaurant and I said, "Todd, you have to put me in this movie."

HILL "My dad would really like me to be in it." [*Laughs*]

TELLER It ended up working out! Stories like this don't come around so often for guys in their early to mid-20s who are involved in a world with these kind of stakes. I thought it was incredible.

These guys went as hard on the party front as they did on the arms trading, right?

HILL They did, yeah. It's the 14-year-old version of yourself that goes, "Hell, yeah!" but you don't examine the outcome. You see the snapshot and want to live in that snapshot, but you don't see the moral, physical, legal repercussions. You're just thinking like a kid.

This movie seems like a departure for Todd Phillips. It's not strictly a comedy.

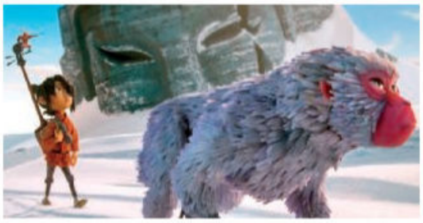
HILL It has big laughs, but it's not like his other films. It's a crime film that is very funny.

TELLER It's great when you work on a script and the director is completely in charge—that's not always the case.

HILL Yeah, Todd nailed this. I will tell you when I'm in a bad movie! And I'm really, really proud of this movie.

WAR DOGS: WARNER BROS.; *KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS*: LAIKA STUDIOS/FOCUS FEATURES; *SOUTHSIDE WITH YOU*: MATT DINERSTEIN

Kubo (Art Parkinson) and Monkey (Charlize Theron)



KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS

RELEASE DATE
AUG 19

STARRING
Matthew McConaughey, Charlize Theron, Rooney Mara

DIRECTED BY
Travis Knight

GENRE

ANIMATION HOUSE LAIKA HAS SCORED Oscar nominations for all three of its films (*Coraline*, *ParaNorman*, *The Boxtrolls*), but company CEO and first-time director Travis Knight says that he gave the team a bigger challenge for *Kubo*: "Let's take the essence of a classic Kurosawa myth and do it as a stop-motion David Lean epic." If that sounds a bit over the heads of Laika's tyke audience, Knight has other reasons to be confident. Matthew McConaughey, in his first-ever voice role, as a brawny beetle, found the screenplay so delightful that he read it as a bedtime story to his kids. —**JOE McGOVERN**

Tika Sumpter and Parker Sawyers

SOUTHSIDE WITH YOU

RELEASE DATE
AUG 19

STARRING
Parker Sawyers, Tika Sumpter

DIRECTED BY
Richard Tanne

GENRE

PARKER SAWYERS (*SURVIVOR*) AND TIKA Sumpter (*Ride Along*) earned praise at Sundance for their casual portrayals of the Obamas on their first date, but getting to that comfort level wasn't easy. "My very first tape that I sent in was a straight-on impersonation, and I was embarrassed," Sawyers says. And not what writer-director Richard Tanne, making his feature debut, had in mind. No impressions, he told his stars. Sawyers was stumped. "I told my wife, 'I'm still going to do a little Barack because I don't know what he is talking about,'" he says, adding, "I did a tiny, little bit." —**KEVIN P. SULLIVAN**

ANATOMY OF A SCENE

BEN-HUR

STARRING
Jack Huston,
Morgan Freeman,
Toby Kebbell

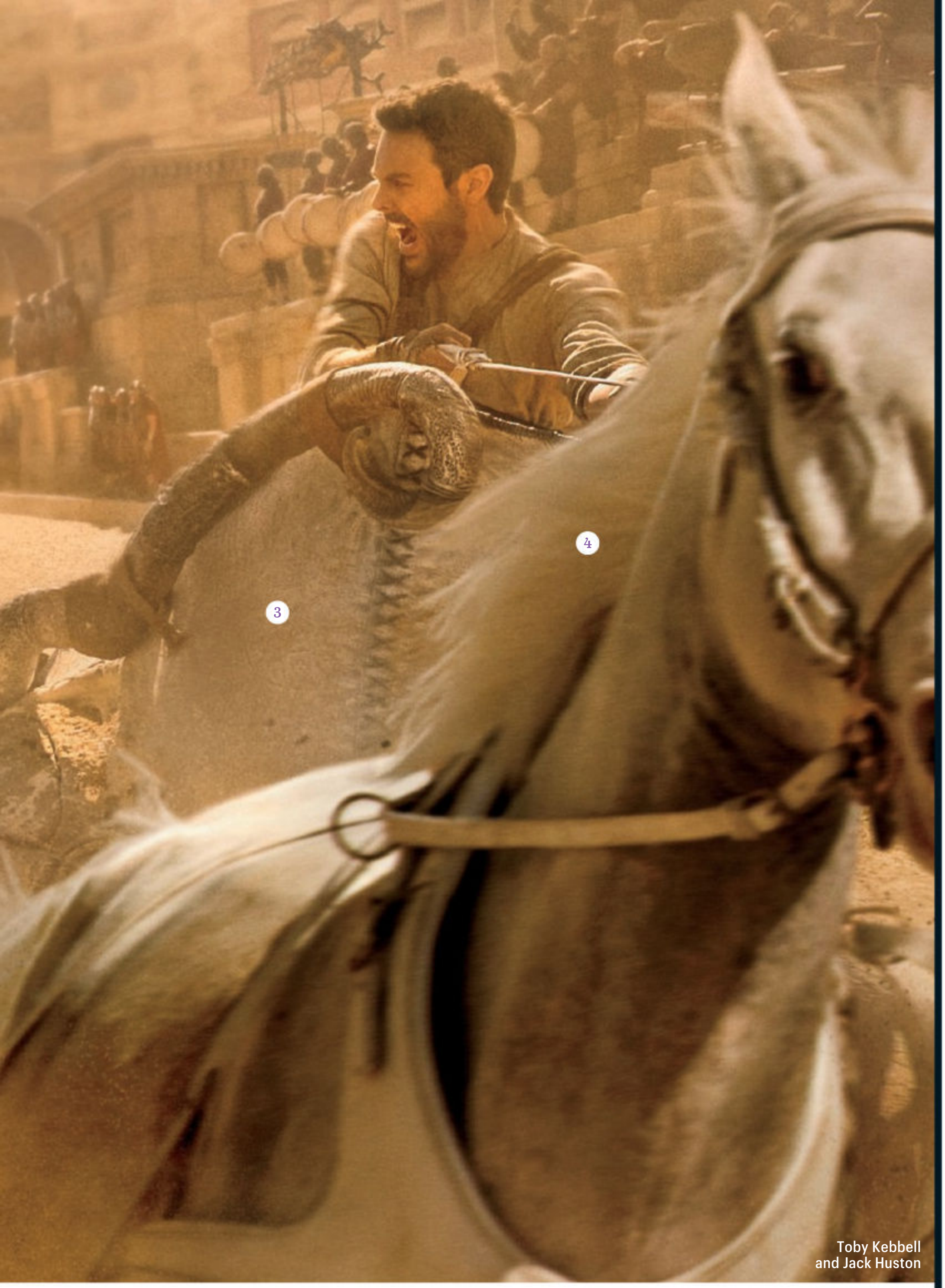
DIRECTED BY
Timur Bekmambetov

GENRE

RELEASE DATE
AUG
19

BEAT FOR BEAT, *WANTED* DIRECTOR TIMUR Bekmambetov's reboot of the Oscar-winning 1959 epic starring Charlton Heston is an homage. Starring Jack Huston (*Boardwalk Empire*), *Ben-Hur* tells the story of the titular Jewish prince in the time of Christ who, after being condemned to slavery by his adopted brother, Messala (Toby Kebbell), seeks revenge that culminates in a deadly chariot race. Here's how the fast-paced scene—shot over 32 days in southern Italy—was re-created. —NINA TERRERO

SUMMER SPLASHBACK → **Gladiator** definitely entertained in 2000, and then became the rare summer movie to win the Oscar for Best Picture.



Toby Kebbell and Jack Huston

① SUPERSIZE STADIUM

The Roman circus, named for its circular shape, was roughly the size of three football fields. It took more than three months to build this re-creation, including the columns, grandstand, and starting gates. "It's the biggest set I've ever seen," Bekmambetov says.

② BUCKLE UP

"It's like NASCAR," Huston says of his four-horse chariot. And as in that sport, appropriate apparel—in his case, a leather-trimmed costume—proved crucial against sand. "That's why you use leather," he says, laughing. "So you don't shred off your privates."

③ SWEET CHARIOT

Bekmambetov ordered 20 custom chariots made from ultralight metal and decorated them with wood, bronze, and leather decals to resemble the 1959 originals. The chariot, he says, is "very high-tech on the inside, but on the outside it looks like it should."

④ MANE ATTRACTION

Eighty-six horses were trained for high-speed stunts and were used to film the pulse-pounding races. "Timur was very keen to keep it as realistic as possible, not using CG unless absolutely necessary, like with a big crash or if a horse gets hurt," says Huston.

BEN-HUR: PHILIPPE ANTONELLO; *MECHANIC: RESURRECTION:* DANIEL SMITH

ALSO PLAYING

BLOOD FATHER

AUG. 26

An ex-con (Mel Gibson) must dig into his dangerous past to protect his estranged daughter from a brutal drug cartel.

DON'T BREATHE

AUG. 26

Three amateur burglars think they've found the perfect score—the home of a rich blind man (Stephen Lang)—only to find themselves trapped in the man's lair.

HANDS OF STONE

AUG. 26

Boxing legend Roberto Duran (Edgar Ramirez) famously told Sugar Ray Leonard (Usher Raymond) "No más," but he's got a legend in his corner for his life story: Robert De Niro stars as trainer Ray Arcel.

MECHANIC: RESURRECTION

AUG. 26

Arthur Bishop (Jason Statham) is tasked with several impossible hits after a deceitful woman (Jessica Alba) drags him back into the assassination business.

COMPLETE UNKNOWN

AUGUST TBD

Michael Shannon's quaint married life is rattled when a friend brings a beautiful woman (Rachel Weisz) to their dinner party. She insists they've never met, but he's sure she's his former flame.

—WILL ROBINSON

JUNE 10
Jesse Eisenberg in
Now You See Me 2

SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW
2016

CALENDAR

MAY

MAY 04

A Bigger Splash
STARRING
Tilda Swinton

MAY 06

Being Charlie
STARRING
Nick Robinson
Common

Captain America: Civil War
STARRING
Chris Evans
Robert Downey Jr.

Elstree 1976
Documentary

Mothers and Daughters
STARRING
Susan Sarandon
Sharon Stone

Pelé: Birth of a Legend
STARRING
Kevin de Paula
Vincent D'Onofrio

MAY 13

The Darkness
STARRING
Kevin Bacon
Radha Mitchell

Last Days in the Desert
STARRING
Ewan McGregor

The Lobster
STARRING
Colin Farrell
Rachel Weisz

Love & Friendship
STARRING
Kate Beckinsale

Money Monster
STARRING
George Clooney
Julia Roberts

Search Party
STARRING
Thomas Middleditch

Sunset Song
STARRING
Agyness Deyn

MAY 20

The Angry Birds Movie
STARRING
Jason Sudeikis
Bill Hader

Back in the Day
STARRING
William DeMeo
Alec Baldwin

Maggie's Plan
STARRING
Greta Gerwig
Julianne Moore

Manhattan Night
STARRING
Adrien Brody
Yvonne Strahovski

Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
STARRING
Seth Rogen
Zac Efron

The Nice Guys
STARRING
Ryan Gosling
Russell Crowe

MAY 27

Alice Through the Looking Glass
STARRING
Mia Wasikowska
Johnny Depp

The Do-Over
STARRING
Adam Sandler
David Spade

Holy Hell
Documentary

Ma Ma
STARRING
Penélope Cruz

X-Men: Apocalypse
STARRING
Michael Fassbender
Jennifer Lawrence

JUNE

JUNE 03

The Bye Bye Man
STARRING
Douglas Smith
Lucien Laviscount

Me Before You
STARRING
Emilia Clarke
Sam Claflin

Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping
STARRING
Andy Samberg
Sarah Silverman

TMNT: Out of the Shadows
STARRING
Megan Fox
Stephen Amell

Urge
STARRING
Justin Chatwin
Ashley Greene

JUNE 10

The Conjuring 2
STARRING
Vera Farmiga
Patrick Wilson

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

JULY 8
The Secret Life of Pets

AUG. 26
Robert De Niro and Edgar Ramirez in *Hands of Stone*

Genius
STARRING
Colin Firth
Jude Law

The Music of Strangers
Documentary

Now You See Me 2
STARRING
Jesse Eisenberg
Lizzy Caplan

Warcraft
STARRING
Travis Fimmel
Paula Patton

JUNE 17

Central Intelligence
STARRING
Kevin Hart
Dwayne Johnson

Finding Dory
STARRING
Ellen DeGeneres
Albert Brooks

Swiss Army Man
STARRING
Daniel Radcliffe
Paul Dano

Tickled
Documentary

JUNE 24

Free State of Jones
STARRING
Matthew McConaughey

Hunt for the Wilderpeople
STARRING
Sam Neill
Julian Dennison

Independence Day 2: Resurgence
STARRING
Bill Pullman
Liam Hemsworth

The Phenom
STARRING
Ethan Hawke
Paul Giamatti

The Shallows
STARRING
Blake Lively

JUNE TBD

The Neon Demon
STARRING
Elle Fanning

JULY

JULY 01

The BFG
STARRING
Mark Rylance
Ruby Barnhill

The Legend of Tarzan
STARRING
Alexander Skarsgård
Margot Robbie

Our Kind of Traitor
STARRING
Ewan McGregor
Naomie Harris

The Purge: Election Year
STARRING
Frank Grillo
Elizabeth Mitchell

JULY 08

Captain Fantastic
STARRING
Viggo Mortensen
Frank Langella

Life, Animated
Documentary

Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates
STARRING
Adam Devine
Zac Efron

Our Little Sister
STARRING
Haruka Ayase

The Secret Life of Pets
STARRING
Louis C.K.
Eric Stonestreet

Zero Days
Documentary

JULY 15

Equals
STARRING
Kristen Stewart
Nicholas Hoult

Ghostbusters
STARRING
Kristen Wiig
Melissa McCarthy

Gleason
Documentary

The Infiltrator
STARRING
Bryan Cranston
Diane Kruger

Little Men
STARRING
Alfred Molina
Jennifer Ehle

Tony Robbins: I Am Not Your Guru
Documentary

JULY 22

Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie
STARRING
Joanna Lumley
Jennifer Saunders

Don't Think Twice
STARRING
Mike Birbiglia
Gillian Jacobs

Ice Age: Collision Course
STARRING
John Leguizamo
Jennifer Lopez

Lights Out
STARRING
Teresa Palmer
Maria Bello

Star Trek Beyond
STARRING
Chris Pine
Idris Elba

JULY 29

Author: The JT Leroy Story
Documentary

Bad Moms
STARRING
Mila Kunis
Kristen Bell

Equity
STARRING
Anna Gunn

Indignation
STARRING
Logan Lerman
Sarah Gadon

Jason Bourne
STARRING
Matt Damon
Alicia Vikander

JULY TBD

Wiener-Dog
STARRING
Greta Gerwig
Danny DeVito

AUG

AUG 05

Five Nights in Maine
STARRING
Dianne Wiest
David Oyelowo

The Founder
STARRING
Michael Keaton
Linda Cardellini

Nine Lives
STARRING
Kevin Spacey
Jennifer Garner

Suicide Squad
STARRING
Will Smith
Jared Leto

AUG 12

Café Society
STARRING
Jesse Eisenberg
Kristen Stewart

Florence Foster Jenkins
STARRING
Meryl Streep
Hugh Grant

The Hollars
STARRING
John Krasinski
Margo Martindale

Pete's Dragon
STARRING
Bryce Dallas Howard
Robert Redford

Sausage Party
STARRING
Seth Rogen
Jonah Hill

Spectral
STARRING
Emily Mortimer
Bruce Greenwood

AUG 19

Ben-Hur
STARRING
Jack Huston
Morgan Freeman

Kickboxer: Vengeance
STARRING
Jean-Claude Van Damme
Alain Moussi

Kubo and the Two Strings
STARRING
Charlize Theron
Rooney Mara

Southside With You
STARRING
Parker Sawyers
Tika Sumpter

The Space Between Us
STARRING
Asa Butterfield
Britt Robertson

War Dogs
STARRING
Jonah Hill
Miles Teller

AUG 26

Blood Father
STARRING
Mel Gibson
Erin Moriarty

Don't Breathe
STARRING
Jane Levy

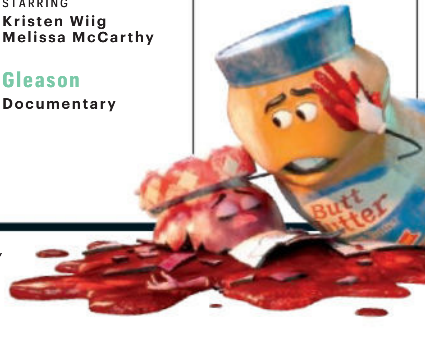
Hands of Stone
STARRING
Edgar Ramirez
Robert De Niro

Mechanic: Resurrection
STARRING
Jason Statham
Jessica Alba

AUG TBD

Complete Unknown
STARRING
Michael Shannon
Rachel Weisz

MAY 27
Nicholas Hoult in *X-Men: Apocalypse*



AUG. 12 *Sausage Party*

NOW YOU SEE ME 2: LIONSGATE; *THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS*: ILLUMINATION ENTERTAINMENT AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES;
HANDS OF STONE: RICO TORRES; *SAUSAGE PARTY*: COLUMBIA PICTURES; *X-MEN: APOCALYPSE*: PHILIPPE BOSSE

Movies

REEL NEWS

Back From the Dead A new poster for *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* hints that Colin Firth's character may return for the sequel. • **Fast & Furiosa** Charlize Theron has signed on to play the villain in *Fast 8*.

EDITED BY **KEVIN P. SULLIVAN** @KPSull

▲ Callum Turner, Anton Yelchin, Alia Shawkat, and Imogen Poots

Green Room

STARRING
Anton Yelchin, Imogen Poots, Patrick Stewart

DIRECTED BY
Jeremy Saulnier

RATING
R

LENGTH
1 hr., 34 mins.

REVIEW BY
Chris Nashawaty *@ChrisNashawaty*

PART OF BEING IN A PUNK BAND INVOLVES HAVING TO play some pretty hostile venues. But the one in writer-director Jeremy Saulnier's new white-knuckle thriller, *Green Room*, makes the typical mosh-pit dive look like a kindergarten run by nuns. The Ain't Rights are a hardcore quartet who've been touring the country in a beat-up van straight out of *Scooby-Doo* (or, perhaps more fitting for this blood-soaked film, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*). Running low on cash, the band—played by Anton Yelchin, Alia Shawkat, Joe Cole, and Callum Turner—is forced to siphon gas from other cars and nearly comes to blows over who gets the last packet of ramen noodles. Green Day they ain't.

With the group about to throw in the towel and head back home, a sympathetic fan scores them a show at a sketchy-looking roadhouse deep in the Oregon woods. The only catch is that the audience is full of rabid white supremacists. Rather than being scared off, the band manages to find the absurd humor of their situation and kicks off the show with the Dead Kennedys' rat-a-tat classic "Nazi Punks F--- Off!" Miraculously, they manage to finish their set in one piece, but as they're about to hightail it out of there, the bassist, Pat (Yelchin), returns to the green room for a forgotten phone and discovers a dead woman on the floor with a knife stuck in her head. The rest of the Ain't Rights, plus the dead girl's friend (Imogen Poots), lock themselves inside while the compound's scarily calm leader, Darcy (Patrick Stewart, menacingly against type in all but the skinhead part), plans how to clean up the messy situation.

From there, the already tense *Green Room* shifts gears into an *intense* siege thriller, pitting our DIY punk heroes against backwoods Hitler Youth psychos armed with shotguns, machetes, and throat-ripping attack dogs—an exploitation standoff that, you have to admit, you don't see every day. What makes *Green Room* more than just a giddy, gory slice of gonzo B-movie mayhem, however, is both its ace cast and the vise-tightening mastery of the man pulling the strings behind the camera. While Yelchin and Poots are worth calling out for their scrappy resourcefulness punctuated by perfectly timed bits of (much needed) black humor, it's Stewart whose relaxed air of jackbooted evil captures and holds your attention. Like his chrome-domed countryman Ben Kingsley in 2001's *Sexy Beast*, Stewart is way scarier when he's neither barking nor biting but just purring controlled threats. Who knew he was so good being so bad? As for director Saulnier, whose previous film was 2014's slow-boiling revenge indie *Blue Ruin*, he has now officially graduated from one-to-watch to real-deal status. Turns out that just like his leading man, he's really good at being really bad too. **A–**

THIS FILM CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

BC BOX CUTTERS
M METAL
DT DUCT TAPE
SD SCREWDRIVERS

WHO'S THE WORST?

Ranking the scariest bad baldies in film

TERRIFYING

1

VOLDEMORT
Harry Potter series

The dark wizard may just have been jealous of his nemesis' hair.

2

MOLA RAM
Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

Even the power of Kali Ma couldn't liven up those follicles.

3

DARCY BANKER
Green Room

Bad things can happen when political affiliation matches hairstyle.

4

NEBULA
Guardians of the Galaxy

Bald, blue, and Thanos' kid. It's easy to see why she went evil.

5

DON LOGAN
Sexy Beast

Here's proof you don't need f---in' hair to be f---in' scary.

STILL SCARY

▼ Ice Cube and Common in *Barbershop 3*

Common on *Barbershop 3*

The rapper and actor, 44, talks to EW about taking on a more serious role in the long-running comedy franchise.

BY LEAH GREENBLATT

You weren't in the first two films. Why join in on *The Next Cut*?
When they reached out, I was really intrigued, because I knew that Malcolm Lee was directing and [*black-ish* creator] Kenya Barris and Tracy Oliver wrote the script. But what really got me was it had a heart that I really love, and I felt connected to the story in many ways.

Let's talk about that. This is a comedy, but it also mixes in very real issues, and it's set in your hometown.
It would be—not ignorant—but it wouldn't be right if we did a story dealing with Chicago and didn't really deal with the truth of what's happening in the community. There were over 100 murders so far this year, more than 500 people were shot, and as difficult as the situation is, we know it's real.

Did the script also have to evolve to reflect the news?
It was truly a work in progress. We had to stay relevant and keep updating what was going on while we were filming. Like, the shooting in the South Carolina church we put in the week it happened. My character talks about it.

Did you worry about balancing the darker stuff with the humor?
At times I would say, "Is my character being too preachy?" You know, that guy who's always got to have a *message*. [*Laughs*] But we put our trust in Malcolm, and he was able to make a movie that's funny and fun, but you feel the heart of it, you feel the struggle of the real situation.

Do you think that message can cross over?
I do. Some of the white audience, I think, is not aware of the conversation and what goes on in the black community, and it gives them a peek into that. But I think more than anything, when things have a certain authenticity to them, it doesn't matter what color the storytellers are.

How tough was it to romance Eve *and* Nicki Minaj on screen?
Two beautiful, powerful women, and I got paid for that—what more can I ask? It's a good life.

Well, you have three Grammys and an Oscar for *Selma* last year, so you're halfway to an EGOT now. You'd better go get that Tony.
[*Laughs*] Yes! You know I am. I'll be in theaters at some point soon.

GREEN ROOM: SCOTT GREEN (2); INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM: © LUCASFILM LTD. & TM; GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY: JAY MAIDMENT; SEXY BEAST: NICK WALL; BARBERSHOP: THE NEXT CUT: CHUCK ZLOTNICK

BEHIND THE DESIGN

KING OF THE JUNGLE

Christopher Walken rules as King Louie in a live-action ***The Jungle Book*** (out April 15). Here's how Disney made the prime ape bigger than ever. **BY NICOLE SPERLING**

WALKEN: ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY IMAGES; *THE JUNGLE BOOK* (2016): EVERETT COLLECTION;
GIGANTOPITHECUS: SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY; *THE JUNGLE BOOK* (1967): DISNEY

King Louie in the new *Jungle Book* (*above*) and the 1967 film (*below*)

Meet the new King Louie. He's 10 feet tall—and long extinct.

For *The Jungle Book*, director Jon Favreau (*Iron Man*) wanted to anchor every detail in reality. But that created a problem when it came to the movie's great ape. In Disney's 1967 animated movie, Louie (voiced by Louis Prima) is an orangutan. But the ginger-haired primates aren't endemic to India, where Rudyard Kipling's classic is set. The maniacal—and musical!—monarch needed a new species.

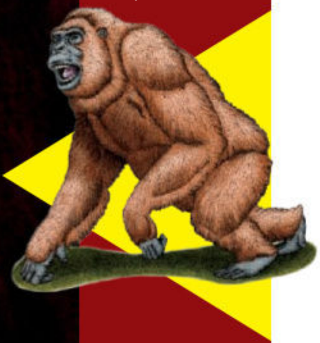
Favreau found his answer in *Gigantopithecus*, an ancient ape that died out about 100,000 years ago. The animal was, as its name suggests, huge, towering up to almost 10 feet tall, more than double the size of an adult male orangutan. So this Louie, voiced by Christopher Walken, is a far more intimidating figure. "It sparked my imagination and allowed me to do something tonally different and more exciting," Favreau says. "Plus, no one knew what it looked like, so I could take some liberties and make it look like Christopher Walken."

And sing like him, too. Prima sang the swinging, bongo-heavy hit "I Wan'na Be Like You" in the '67 film. This time, to match Louie's new species, composer John Debney partnered with the song's original lyricist, Richard Sherman, to revamp the tune. Sherman, who also wrote songs for *Mary Poppins*, sparked to the word *Gigantopithecus* and rewrote the lyrics, rhyming it with *ridiculous* and *magnificus*. The result is a musical number that's part Prima, part Marlon Brando in *Apocalypse Now*.

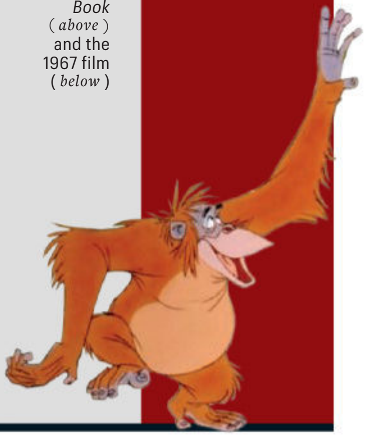
Favreau also planted an Easter egg inside the scene for die-hard Walken fans. When Mowgli rummages through Louie's treasures as the ape sleeps, it's a cowbell that rouses him—a nod to Walken's iconic *SNL* skit. Because even the jungle needs more cowbell.

Louie's Origin Story

The new King Louie is an extinct ancestor of the orangutan that roamed the jungles of India and Asia millions of years ago. Weighing more than 1,000 pounds, *Gigantopithecus* was more ferocious-looking than apes today, but its diet comprised fruit and bamboo. So the Mowglis of ancient history need not worry.

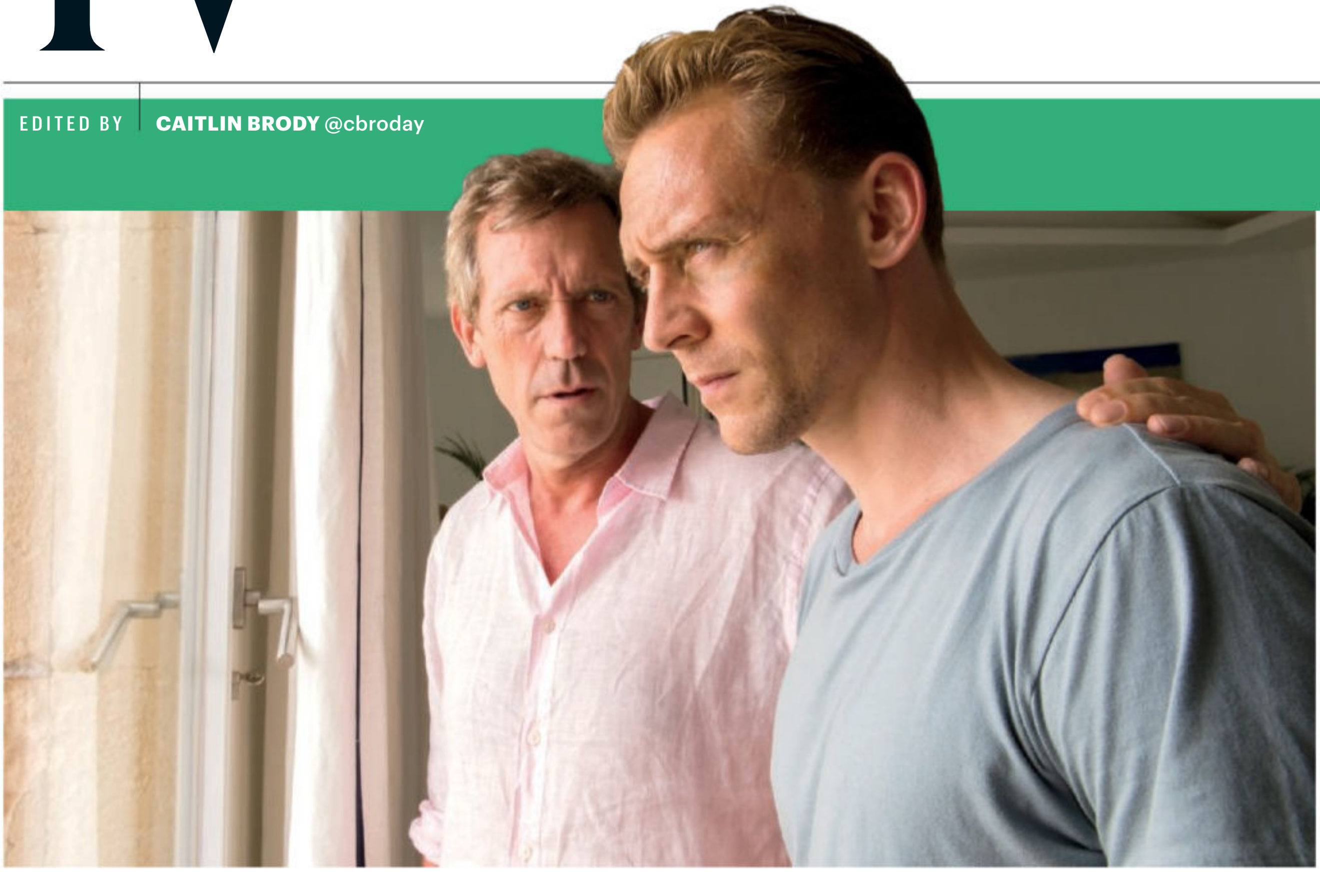


GIGANTOPITHECUS
[*jahy-gan-toh-pi-thee-kuhs*]



TV

EDITED BY **CAITLIN BRODY** @cbroday



▲ Hugh Laurie and Tom Hiddleston

The Night Manager

DATE	TIME	NETWORK	REVIEW BY
Debuts April 19	10 p.m.	AMC	Jeff Jensen @EWDocJensen

JONATHAN PINE IS A FORMER BRITISH SOLDIER LOOKING to escape the chaos and crookedness of our times. Yet quagmire chases him, and he can't resist falling into it. While working the graveyard shift at a Cairo hotel during the Arab Spring, Sophie (Aure Atika), an equally world-weary woman sultry with danger, begs a favor that arouses his conscience, and other parts of him, too. The consequences draw Pine (Tom Hiddleston) into a twilight realm and suck us deep into *The Night Manager*, an ironic and engrossing saga about dark-knight heroism that continues an extraordinary year for smartly written, acting-driven short-form serials (see: *American Crime*; *The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story*).

The novel *The Night Manager*, written by British spy-fi master John le Carré in 1993, engaged the new reality of post–Cold War geopolitics and reflected a genre in transition. The miniseries updates the premise and speaks to a moment dull and dim with antiheroes. After the aforementioned Egyptian business leads to tragedy, Pine runs away again, taking post at a remote mountain resort. But a call to do-gooding—and opportunity for score-settling—finds him anew one evening when bogeyman arms dealer Richard Roper (Hugh Laurie) arrives with Jed (Elizabeth Debicki), his pale and beautiful girlfriend, and Corky (Tom Hollander), his foul, suspicious chief of staff. Duty and vendetta needle Pine to risk tattling on them. A British intelligence officer named Burr (Olivia Colman) prods him to take it further. Soon, Pine has

DES WILLIE/THE INK FACTORY/AMC

LOGLINES

Dark Beauty JonBenét Ramsey will be the subject of a new true-crime series in the works at CBS. • ***Kocktails With Khloé* Gets Kanceled** The Kardashian sister's FYI talk show will end April 20 after 14 episodes.

masked himself with a false identity—a rogue named Andrew Birch—and infiltrated Roper's family-tight operation in Palma de Mallorca, an island paradise full of temptations. Can Pine rope Roper without getting exposed or scorched by so much evil under the sun? Such is the screw-tightening suspense, impressively directed by Danish helmer Susanne Bier.

The Night Manager comes on like film noir, the kind where a flawed Everyman in a fallen world is seduced by desperate femmes fatales and a mesmerizing villain. But the warm, classical visual aesthetic is your first sign that this show has limited interest in affirming the cynicism of the genre or the current pop zeitgeist. Hiddleston's deceptively passive Pine is a decidedly different take on the cool, privately tortured undercover operative at risk of losing himself in the murk of his work. Burr's decency and patriotism (and her pregnancy) recall Frances McDormand's Marge from *Fargo*. Sophie and Jed aren't tempter vixens. Like Pine, they're trapped souls who desire full, righteous lives—not hollow, sell-out lives.

Laurie's Roper is the slyest creation. He's an anti-Bond villain to Pine's anti-Bond hero. He captivates us not with pure evil but with the possibility that he might only be a slimy international businessman, one with sincere romantic, philanthropic, and fatherly dimensions. Watching this death merchant delight in producing violent spectacle, collecting youth and beauty and grooming Pine to be the new "star" of his sick show, you wonder if Laurie is playing an arms dealer or a movie producer. A clever fable of heroic renewal, *The Night Manager* gives us a redemptive journey into a heart of darkness and a portrait of a genre mired in shadow pining for daylight. **A–**

NIGHT'S FAMILIAR FACES

Brand-new show, same old beloved Brits

OLIVIA COLMAN
The *Broadchurch* broad plays the scrappy head of intelligence.

DAVID HAREWOOD
Supergirl's alien ditches Mars for agent work in London.

TOBIAS MENZIES
The *Outlander* officer plays an MI6 named Dromgoole. Yes, seriously.

DOUGLAS HODGE
Penny Dreadful's inspector is the British intelligence head honcho.

Julia Louis-Dreyfus

Veep Pledges to Make ~~America~~ TV Great Again

Hope! Change! John Slattery! At least one of those things will be found in the fifth season of HBO's *Veep*, which returns April 24 at 10:30 p.m. We talked to the new showrunner, David Mandel, about what the political comedy has in store this year—and what it doesn't. (Hint: It rhymes with Tronald Dump.) BY RAY RAHMAN

It's Indecision 2000 All Over Again

The premiere picks up the morning after the election that left President Selina Meyer (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) and her opponent, Sen. Bill O'Brien (Brad Leland), locked in a tie. Plus, there's a chance they could *both* lose to Meyer's running mate, Tom James (Hugh Laurie), who might go rogue. "There is this very bizarre way that Tom could end up president," says Mandel, who joined the team after series creator Armando Iannucci stepped down. "And there's a Gore-Bush situation, where Gore's running mate, Joe Lieberman, was a bit of a wild card. We took great inspiration from that for Tom."

Madam President Gets Hers

Meyer will find some non-Gary companionship (sorry, Tony Hale!) in the form of guest star John Slattery. "At this horrifically confusing point in her life, we liked the idea of a relationship," says Mandel. "In the past, we had seen her with her trainer.... All her previous guys were beneath her. So we had the idea: What kind of person would be her equal?" Enter Slattery's high-powered Wall-Street-titan character. "We created this sort of *Bonfire of the Vanities* guy—really rich and charming. It's a funny relationship that starts antagonistically and then becomes a really, really nice relationship."

Don't Expect Selina to Get Trumped

For those wondering if *Veep* will address the orange-haired candidate in the room..."I will say this as clearly as possible: There is no Donald Trump, and there is no Donald Trump character," Mandel says with a laugh. So can Selina Meyer make America great again? "I think she can," Mandel says. "She certainly can make hats and shirts, if nothing else. Also, she has a *giant* penis."

COLMAN: MIKE MARSLAND/WIREIMAGE.COM; HAREWOOD: JEFF SPICER/GETTY IMAGES; MENZIES: MIKE COPPOLA/GETTY IMAGES; HODGE: WALTER MCBRIDE/WIREIMAGE.COM; *VEEP*: LACEY TERRELL/HBO

(Clockwise from left) All in the Family, Maude, Good Times, and The Jeffersons

Norman Lear: My Favorite Moments

If you've ever laughed at a TV show from the '70s, there's a good chance you have Norman Lear to thank. (He once had *nine* series on the air.) Here, the 93-year-old Emmy-winning creator/producer/legend—who will be honored at the TV Land Icon Awards (April 17, 9 p.m., in celebration with EW)—recalls the seminal episodes from his provocative, socially conscious sitcoms.

BY DAN SNIERSON

ALL IN THE FAMILY

"SAMMY'S VISIT" (1972)

Sammy Davis Jr., as himself, drops by to retrieve a briefcase he left in Archie's cab. Archie (Carroll O'Connor), of course, shows his bigoted colors, and as a photo is taken, Sammy surprises Archie—who didn't want to drink from his glass—with a kiss.

"There were some great racial lines in the buildup: Archie talking about, 'If God had meant us to be together, he'd have put us together,' and Sammy says, 'Well, you must have told 'em where we were because somebody came and got us.' There was no kiss at all in the script. It was Sammy's idea. He surprised everyone at rehearsal. The writers and I were blown away.... The audience's reaction to it was *huge*. They loved it. There was something so lovely in the reaction. As much as it was fun, the audience was making a statement: 'We can handle this.' "

MAUDE

"MAUDE'S DILEMMA" (1972)

Maude (Bea Arthur), 47 and a grandmother, is shocked to learn that she's pregnant, and after some soul-searching with husband Walter (Bill Macy), decides to have an abortion.

"We got one of the longest laughs when Maude tells her friend [Rue McClanahan] she's pregnant. But I can't think of that episode without the last line of the show: 'Just tell me, Walter, that I'm doing the right thing, not having the baby.' And he says—and s---, I tear up every time I think about it—'In the privacy of our own lives, you're doing the right thing.' I love the way that finished.... The truly interesting thing is nothing really happened when the show aired. But in reruns, the religious right [protested and] laid in front of [CBS founder] Mr. Paley's car in New York and my car in Los Angeles."

THE JEFFERSONS

"A FRIEND IN NEED" (1975)

Louise (Isabel Sanford) asks excitable husband George (Sherman Hemsley) why they can't be more like interracial couple Tom (Franklin Cover) and Helen (Roxie Roker). His answer? Tom and Helen are too scared to fight. "If you two really ever started going at one another," George tells Helen, "inside of five minutes, he'd be calling you—" Helen: "Don't say it!" George: "N-----."

"That was a great scene, a great moment. They performed it so well. The problem the network had with that was it was so f---ing funny. Why was it funny? Sherman Hemsley. [CBS' concerns with the scene] were louder and fiercer on paper than they were after they saw it.... It was a word that nobody was saying, and nobody would dare say. And Sherman didn't dare—he just did it."

GOOD TIMES

"THE EVANS GET INVOLVED" (1977)

The comedy about a black family in the projects explored issues beyond poverty and race. Lear is proud of the child-abuse story involving 10-year-old neighbor Penny (Janet Jackson, in her first Hollywood gig), and the season 1 plot in which the family urges patriarch James (John Amos) to seek treatment for hypertension.

"Penny was an abused child, and [her mother] put a hot iron on her. The network got tons of calls for information about child abuse.... [One time, a writer] came in with a news clipping that said hypertension in black males was way up. It was a great idea for an episode. When it went on, the network got thousands of calls from black families seeking information about hypertension... That's when I learned a big lesson: My God, these things really matter."

LEAR: MAARTEN DE BOER/GETTY IMAGES; *GOOD TIMES*: CBS/GETTY IMAGES

POP CULTURE OF MY LIFE

JULIE PLEC

As showrunner of *The Vampire Diaries*, *The Originals*, and the upcoming ***Containment***, which follows the citizens of Atlanta during a deadly viral outbreak (debuting April 19 at 9 p.m.), Julie Plec, 43, knows how to spin TV gold. As a pop culture junkie, The CW's not-so-secret weapon tells us about the books, music, and shows that shaped her identity. **BY SAMANTHA HIGHFILL**

The book that made me want to become a writer

I don't think I was ever obsessed with anything more than **1** > *Flowers in the Attic*, which I read 13 times between fourth grade and senior year.

The couple I shipped the hardest

Who could not love Angela Chase and Jordan Catalano from *My So-Called Life*? Also, I did truly ship **2** > Buffy and Spike. I actually resented how much Buffy struggled with the fact that she cared for him. [*Laughs*] I felt Buffy was slightly too apologetic for the fact that she wanted to have sex with Spike.

The show I wish I could've written for

Absolutely, without fail, *Friday Night Lights* is always going to top that list for me till the day I die. But I do remember when I first moved [to L.A.] right out of college, my friends and I used to gather to watch **3** > *Party of Five*. I would've loved, loved, loved to have had a chance to work on that show. I would've let Julia have her goddamn abortion on screen.

The TV death that made me cry the hardest

On *General Hospital* Dominique had a brain tumor, and the most villainous a--hole, Scotty Baldwin, was completely irredeemable when he fell in love with her. My college friends and I sat in our apartment for an entire year watching Dominique die. It was the most drawn-out and wonderful, cathartic, devastating year of television. And by the end of it, damned if we all weren't madly in love with Scotty Baldwin because of the grace he showed in the face of the death of the woman he loved. And that is where I learned that trick.

The album I know every word to

I have five! **4** > Prince's *Purple Rain*, Counting Crows' *August and Everything After*, Depeche Mode's *Some Great Reward*, Sinéad O'Connor's *The Lion and the Cobra*, and the soundtrack to *Rent*. Yeah, that sums me up.

The writer who unexpectedly had a big impact on me

Pat Conroy wrote some of the most magnificent stories. *The Prince of Tides*, *The Great Santini*, and *The Lords of Discipline*. If I'm circling back to the first question, I should've said that along with *Flowers in the Attic*. He could make you angry; he could make you cry; he explored mental illness and wildly, deeply dysfunctional families. He was a really beautiful storyteller.

My favorite heroine

It's Laura Ingalls Wilder. It's Jessica and Elizabeth Wakefield. It's Nancy Drew. It's **5** > Molly Ringwald. She was the seminal actress of my teen years, and her characters were wonderful, so I'd say Molly Ringwald/John Hughes. And we'll throw Trixie Belden on there. They are strong but imperfect. I love real women that don't have to be saints—they can be selfish and act out against their parents or like the wrong guy, because that's life. That's my life, at least.

▼
Ian Somerhalder, Julie Plec, and Nina Dobrev on the set of *The Vampire Diaries*

1 >

V.C. Andrews
Flowers in the Attic

2 >

3 >

4 >

5 >

EW **MORE ON EW RADIO** Get the details on *Containment* when Julie Plec joins *LA Daily* hosts Julia Cunningham and Kyle Anderson April 19 at 7 p.m. on SiriusXM Channel 105

PLEC: RICKY MIDDLESWORTH; SOMERHALDER, PLEC, AND DOBREV: BOB MAHONEY/THE CW; *BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER*: UPN/PHOTOFEST; *PARTY OF FIVE*: ANDREW ECCLES/FOX; PRINCE: RICHARD E. AARON/GETTY IMAGES

What to Watch

A DAY-TO-DAY GUIDE TO NOTABLE PROGRAMS* **BY RAY RAHMAN @RayRahman**

Alfie Allen and Sophie Turner

MUST WATCH OF THE WEEK

Season Premiere

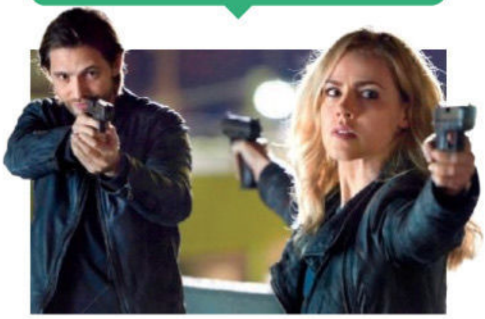
GAME OF THRONES

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 | 9–10PM | HBO

As if you need more incentive. HBO's latest trip to Westeros is perhaps the most anticipated TV event of the year after its Emmy-avalanched season 5 climaxed with 37 intense cliffhangers (give or take). Expect a crowd-pleasing opener that begins precisely where you hope it will (at Castle Black, of course), with the eerie, mournful howls of Jon Snow's direwolf Ghost and the gruesome discovery of the Lord Commander's body (yup, dead). "The first episode dovetails immediately into the end of season 5," teases actor Liam Cunningham, whose noble Ser Davos Seaworth plays a prominent role in the premiere, "and there are some fabulous shocks." The surprises are served up amid a series of expertly crafted sequences that charge forward like a Dothraki horde, effortlessly leaping from one faraway point to the next. Cinematic production values have once again hit a new level as well—this fantasy world has never felt more exotic. *—James Hibberd*

Subscribe to **EW's Game of Thrones Weekly** podcast featuring top Westeros war correspondent James Hibberd and fanboy Darren Franich every Monday, starting April 25

MONDAY APRIL 18



Season Premiere

12 Monkeys

9–10PM | SYFY

Can Cole (Aaron Stanford) prevent the plague that kills billions? In season 2, Syfy's trippy time-travel saga unveils an even bigger mind-bending danger that's in store. "The plague was just the beginning of the threat," EP Terry Matalas says. "The Army of the 12 Monkeys has a larger agenda." Those plans include the mysterious Messengers, who took over the machine in the finale. They play a large role in what could be humanity's final downfall—and also cause the normally levelheaded Cassie (Amanda Schull) to turn down a darker path. She is, after all, heading toward her inevitable death that kicked off the series...or is she?

—Natalie Abrams

SEASON FINALE

Supergirl

8–9PM | CBS

Supergirl must prevent two villains from "destroying every person on the planet," easily making this the most alarming press release I've read all week.

Season Finale

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend

8–9PM | THE CW

The musical comedy ends its first season with a guest appearance by Lea Salonga, a.k.a. the singing voice behind *Aladdin*'s Princess Jasmine. If "A Whole New World" isn't suddenly stuck in your head right now, then you might be Jafar.

Season Finale

Better Call Saul

10–11PM | AMC

Which version of *Better Call Saul* do you like better: the one about gritty underworld crime or the one about lawyers frowning in conference rooms? The finale features a healthy mix of both Jimmy and Mike, so you're covered either way!

*TIMES ARE EASTERN DAYLIGHT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

GAME OF THRONES: HELEN SLOAN/HBO; *12 MONKEYS*: STEVE WILKIE/SYFY

TUESDAY APRIL 19

Season Finale

Brooklyn Nine-Nine

9–9:30PM | FOX

The penultimate installment of season 3 ended with Holt (Andre Braugher) betrayed at gunpoint by FBI doppelgänger Bob (Dennis Haysbert), and the drama only increases in the season ender, which exec producer Dan Goor calls "the stakesiest episode we've ever done." As for those final moments, "there is a cliff-hanger," reveals Goor. "There's more danger that lurks ahead for Holt and Jake (Andy Samberg)...and next season promises to be *muy caliente*." Any other hints? "We see young Captain Holt playing doctor, although that may sound more sexual than it's meant to," he says. "And at long last, we learn three of his favorite rice varietals. Some would say it's all been building to this." *—Dan Snierson*

WEDNESDAY APRIL 20

Miniseries Debut

Time Traveling Bong

10:30–11PM | COMEDY CENTRAL

The *Broad City* season finale airs tonight, but Ilana Glazer is softening the blow with a three-night miniseries that looks to be every bit as ridiculous as you'd expect from the title. She and costar Paul W. Downs (a.k.a. fitness freak Trey from *Broad City*) play pals who, yep, travel through time via bong rips. "We go to the Salem witch trials, *obvs*," Glazer tells EW. "We meet Michael Jackson. We go to paleo times, which in real life I think I would rule. And then we go to the future!" In other words, happy 4/20.

BROOKLYN NINE-NINE: JOHN P. FLEENOR/FOX; TIME TRAVELING BONG: CLAIRE FOLGER/COMEDY CENTRAL

THURSDAY APRIL 21

Season Premiere

Million Dollar Listing New York

9–10:30PM | BRAVO

Tune in to see how people with secret bank accounts in Panama like to live.

Series Debut

Comedy Knockout

10:30–11PM | TRUTV

Three comics engage in a series of fast-paced comedy challenges. The one with the most audience applause is crowned the winner, and whoever does the worst must apologize to the crowd. This is also how the EW intern program operates.

SEASON PREMIERE

Inside Amy Schumer

10–10:30PM

COMEDY CENTRAL

The show's fourth season includes a special guest spot with *Hamilton* creator and star Lin-Manuel Miranda, who might be the only human being on the planet who's as ubiquitous as Amy Schumer herself.

FRIDAY APRIL 22

The Vampire Diaries

8–9PM | THE CW

The episode is titled "Somebody That I Used to Know." Will the Gotye song of the same name be in it? Tune in to see!

Season Finale

Dr. Ken

8:30–9PM | ABC

Ken gets a visit from his old college pal, played by comedian Jeff Ross. Prepare for some roasting.

Grimm

9–10PM | NBC

A hungry creature terrorizes Portland. Quick, hide all the artisanal cupcakes!

Patton Oswalt: Talking for Clapping

STREAMING | NETFLIX

The funnyman's new hour-long stand-up special promises to cover topics such as misery, defeat, and hopelessness. So, um...TGIF, you guys?

Hell's Kitchen

9–10PM | FOX

Chef Ramsay tasks the remaining three contestants with preparing the perfect steak—plus two sides—in just 40 minutes. *Or* you could make, like, 23 Hungry-Man frozen dinners in the same amount of time.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY **LIZ TAFARO**

SAT APR 23

▶ **School of Rock**

8:30–9PM | NICKELODEON

When Tomika tries to emulate her favorite musician, she ends up offending all her friends. Bit young for a Morrissey phase, isn't it?

▶ **Amy Schumer Presents Rachel Feinstein: Only Whores Wear Purple**

11PM–MIDNIGHT

COMEDY CENTRAL

Judging by the title, this stand-up set will offend Prince, Minnesota Vikings fans, Barney the dinosaur, the Pope during Lent, and Victorian widows in half-mourning.

SUNDAY APRIL 24

SEASON PREMIERE

▶ **Silicon Valley**

10–10:30PM | HBO

When Richard (Thomas Middleditch) gets pushed out as CEO of Pied Piper, the boys must face their dweeby leader's threat to abandon the team. But if a broken—or rather, *disrupted*—start-up seems too weighty a subject for the satire to handle, it's not. The high-IQ (and sometimes just high) ensemble cracks the code with rapid-fire jokes on geek culture—a deer robot! A 3-D mustache app! Big Head (Josh Brener) on the cover of *Wired*?—and frantic tension, striking a balance that continues to make the show a gutsy look at how success requires failing again...and again...and again. A– *—Shirley Li*

Miniseries Debut

▶ **Rebellion**

8–10:20PM | SUNDANCETV

April 24 is the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising, a six-day bloodbath that marked a crucial turn in Ireland's fight against the British for independence. The historical details are fascinating—including the rebels' ill-fated alliance with the U.K.'s World War I enemy Germany—but this unfocused three-night miniseries puts a dull *Downton* luster on gritty events. When a secretary is revealed to be having a scandalous affair with her married boss, that's your cue to pull up Wikipedia. C *—Joe McGovern*

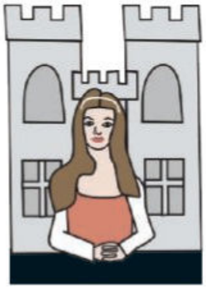
MONDAY APRIL 25

MIDSEASON PREMIERE

▶ **Reign**

8–9PM | THE CW

With Charles IX of France's coronation approaching, Mary seeks a powerful suitor to align herself with. The more Roman numerals, the better!



Season Premiere

▶ **Turn: Washington's Spies**

10–11PM | AMC

If you're looking for a gripping thriller about spies in wigs, *The Americans* is still your best bet—but the Americans on *Turn* are finally showing some fight as well. After a couple years of slow farm-to-chess-table maneuvering, the Revolutionary War drama's season 3 premiere gets heads to roll, literally. Apart from spilled blood, we see Benedict Arnold's (Owain Yeoman) love for Peggy (Ksenia Solo) reach the next stage, the villainous redcoat Simcoe (played with devilish élan by Samuel Roukin) embark on a juicy new mission, and a centerpiece scene that skillfully turns a simple marriage proposal into high suspense. It should be just enough to keep you interested until Alexander Hamilton shows up later in the season. B

TUESDAY APRIL 26

Season Finale

▶ **Limitless**

10–11PM | CBS

In the wake of a shocking betrayal on the team—someone has secretly been working for Sands!—Brian (Jake McDorman) and the FBI must prevent the baddie's organization from profiting off a geopolitical disaster of its own making. But it won't be an easy feat—the side effects of NZT without the immunity shot "manifest in more potent and powerful ways," teases EP Craig Sweeny. "Brian gets so far gone that he comes to expect that there's no other possible outcome than death or some form of psychosis." Don't freak out, but Sweeny cautions there will be death in the finale. As long as Mike and Ike survive, we'll be okay. *—Natalie Abrams*

SILICON VALLEY: JOHN P. FLEENOR/HBO; *REBELLION*: PATRICK REDMOND/SUNDANCETV; *TURN: WASHINGTON'S SPIES*: ANTONY PLATT/AMC; *LIMITLESS*: DAVID M. RUSSELL/CBS

WED APR 27

TRENCHANT

▶ The Americans

10–11PM | FX

Both the KGB and the FBI scramble to locate the same agent. And to make matters worse, they can't even break into the person's iPhone. The '80s were very hard.

THU APR 28

▶ Bones

8–9PM | FOX

The decomposing body of a social worker is found in the park in this special episode of *Parks and Desiccation*.

▶ The Odd Couple

8:30–9PM | CBS

Oscar gets a surprise visit from his father, played by Garry Marshall. How funny—the original *Odd Couple* series was developed by someone who was also named Garry Marshall....

▶ Scandal

9–10PM | ABC

Mellie and Susan work to secure an endorsement from the governor of Florida. So you're telling me Florida *isn't* governed by a 15-foot alligator wearing sunglasses?

FRI APR 29

▶ W. Kamau Bell: Semi-Prominent Negro

10–11PM | SHOWTIME

It might be time for W. Kamau Bell to happen. In addition to a new CNN series, *United Shades of America* (which debuts April 24), the politically oriented comic shines in this Morgan Spurlock-directed special. His sharp takes on gentrification, race, and cabbage—cabbage!—are much funnier than they sound on paper. Fans of Bush-era David Cross will agree. B+

SAT APR 30

▶ 2016 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

8–11PM | HBO

Among the honorees will be rap group N.W.A. In your face, Oscar voters.

▶ Chris Hardwick: Funcomfortable

10–11PM

COMEDY CENTRAL

The busy comic gets to do his own comedy for an hour. And stay tuned for *Talking 'Wick*, the after-show, hosted by Chris Hardwick.

SUNDAY MAY 1

Season Premiere

▶ Penny Dreadful

10–11PM | SHOWTIME

Season 3 of Showtime's sensational monster mash of Victorian horror and winky zeitgeist commentary ventures abroad and looks inward as a league of extraordinary antiheroes confront their demons and search for renewed humanity. Patchwork revenant the Creature (Rory Kinnear) wonders if he/it can be more than mere walking dead. British adventurer Sir Malcolm (Timothy Dalton) and the Native American mystery man (Wes Studi) seek to redeem their figurative son, cowboy werewolf Ethan (Josh Hartnett), lost in the American West. Patti LuPone plays an alienist trying to help soul-sapped witch Vanessa (Eva Green) manage her battiness. Fresh blood and sharp ideas make for delicious, smart-pulp fangoria. B+ —*Jeff Jensen*

W. KAMAU BELL: SEMI-PROMINENT NEGRO: SHOWTIME; *PENNY DREADFUL*: JONATHAN HESSION/SHOWTIME

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EDITED BY **KEVIN O'DONNELL** @ODtron

◀ (*Clockwise from top left*) Biz Markie, Coolio, Tone Lōc, Color Me Badd, Vanilla Ice, Kid 'N Play, All-4-One, and Salt-N-Pepa

KID 'N PLAY, TONE LOC: JANETTE BECKMAN/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES (2); ALL-4-ONE: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM; BIZ MARKIE: MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES; COOLIO: DES WILLIE/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; VANILLA ICE: THE *LIFE* PICTURE COLLECTION/GETTY IMAGES; SALT-N-PEPA, COLOR ME BADD: TIM RONEY/GETTY IMAGES (2)

Return of the '90s All-Stars

With Salt-N-Pepa, Vanilla Ice, Tone Lōc, and more of the decade's biggest pop icons hitting the road this year, EW gets the untold stories behind some of their best hits.

BY ERIC RENNER BROWN

BUST OUT YOUR STARTER JACKETS AND DOUSE YOURSELF IN CK One: A parade of stars are hitting the road for the ultimate throwback tour, I Love the '90s. For 35 dates kicking off April 15, some of the era's most memorable pop artists will revisit their beloved tunes for nostalgists and millennials alike. "There's nothing that defines [this] generation," Vanilla Ice tells EW. "A hundred years will pass, and you'll look back and not one pop icon will define it. It's not Justin Bieber! The '90s are a time people want to relive—or live it for the first time."

NOTEWORTHY

Maxwell returns with *blackSUMMERS'night*, his first album in seven years, on July 1. "We definitely have some sonic elements that will be quite surprising," the soul singer tells EW. "[It's] a more uptempo feel."

SALT-N-PEPA

"SHOOP" 1993

PEPA Hurby "Luv Bug" Azor was the mastermind of all our hits, but I came up with this song with Salt. When we released *Very Necessary* in 1993, he wanted all his songs to be the first singles. I was like, "Nah, 'Shoop' is a great song!" Salt and I wrote it in my apartment in Queens. When we made the video for it, Salt and I were a little thick. But we went to Russia right before [shooting] and we weren't eating properly—it was different tastes than we were used to—so we lost all this weight! True story! So when we filmed "Shoop," we were all lean and looking great. And the fun part was picking out all the men! We had an audition with all these guys, picking them out. Sometimes we run into those guys on tour. People always ask me, "What is shoop?" It's *whatever*! You're shooping it right there. It's a whole vibe, and it's got edgy lyrics. But compared to [music] today, it's a walk in the park.

ALL-4-ONE

"I SWEAR" 1994

JAMIE JONES, SINGER Doug Morris, who was the president of our label, called us into his office and played us this country song [by John Michael Montgomery]. He was like, "I want you guys to record it." And I was like, "You do know we are R&B, right?" And he said he wanted us to work with David Foster, who did Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You." After we recorded it with David at his Malibu house, I thought to myself, "It's a really good song!" And I'll never forget [the response]: During our first gigs at Disneyland Grad Nites, I remember each week we thought, "Oh my God! We can't believe it! Our song went number one today!" And then next weekend: "It's been two weeks!" Then three weeks, four weeks. It just kept going. It's the type of success everyone hopes and prays for.

COLOR ME BADD

"I WANNA SEX YOU UP" 1991

MARK CALDERON, SINGER We got with [producer] Dr. Freeze and listened to his songs and he played the instrumental for "Sex You Up." It blew our minds because it was exactly who we were, that old-school sound. I know Bryan [Abrams] wasn't too happy with his lead vocals. He was hoping he could rerecord it.

BRYAN ABRAMS, SINGER I cried. I punched the wall. I did! I threw a fit.

CALDERON But he cried all the way to the bank, so...

ABRAMS I got over it real fast!

VANILLA ICE

"ICE ICE BABY" 1990

VANILLA ICE I wrote it in 30 minutes. The song tells you the story. It's me, with my top down, in my 5.0 Mustang, cruising down A1A Beachfront Avenue [in Miami]. It's a weekend experience that turned into an amazing song. It's timeless. I still love singing it, and it never gets old. People are tweeting and Instagramming me all day, whenever they see the A1A Beachfront sign!

TONE LŌC

"WILD THING" 1989

TONE LŌC The [version] of "Wild Thing" I came up with is very wild. It was about straight having sex on the beach! But [Matt Dike and Michael Ross, founders of Delicious Vinyl] wanted to calm it down. They didn't make it quite as sexual. People still to this day are like, "Oh my God, the first time I had sex was to that song!" People who graduated from Penn State still want me to come back and do that song because it reminds them of just having a crazy-ass time when they were in college. [But] I think it's a great stepping-stone for hip-hop, to tell you the truth. It opened the door for a lot more listeners, a lot more white listeners. It changed a lot of hip-hop.

4 MUST-SEE ALT-ROCK REUNIONS

Do your '90s music tastes skew more grunge? Check out these acts that are reuniting in 2016.

1

JANE'S ADDICTION

Perry Farrell & Co. will toast the 25th anniversary of *Ritual de lo Habitual* with a six-date U.S. tour, starting July 15.

2

BELLY

Tanya Donelly's group will hit the road in August, playing anthems like 1993's "Feed the Tree."

3

LUSH

With their first new release in 20 years, the British shoegaze band returns to the U.S. this month.

4

WEEN

Oddball studio wizards Gene and Dean have several festival dates on the books.

JANE'S ADDICTION: TODD PLITT/GETTY IMAGES; LUSH: BOB BERG/GETTY IMAGES; WEEN: NICKY J. SIMS/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES

CHART FLASHBACK

1986

Thirty years ago this week on the Hot 100 chart, Mondays were manic, Mozart became a Europop muse, and Prince sealed it all with a you-know-what. **BY LEAH GREENBLATT**

① *PRINCE*
"Kiss"
Kissing Prince sounds so fun and easy! You don't have to be beautiful or rich or cool to rule his world. Ain't no par-tic-u-lar sign he's compatible with. Basically, you can be a broke Capricorn sloth with a snaggletooth and you'll *still* get to do the twirl. **A+**

② *THE BANGLES*
"Manic Monday"
Remember when Garfield owned hating Mondays? Then four boho dreamgirls from L.A. came along and were all, "We see you, cartoon lasagna cat, and we raise you a perfect jangly anthem that P.S., Prince wrote for us." Meow. **A**

③ *ROBERT PALMER*
"Addicted to Love"
There were way worse things to get addicted to in the '80s, for sure—though *love* was maybe not the exact word to describe the tingly feelings the video's famously allergic-to-bras fembots caused. **A–**

④ *FALCO*
"Rock Me Amadeus"
R.I.P. Austrian pop star Falco, who sadly died too soon for an "I Like the Way You Mosey, Beethoven" sequel, or even a "Hey, Debussy, Let's Disco." **B+**

⑤ *PET SHOP BOYS*
"West End Girls"
Wait, so the girls are west and the boys are east? Who has a compass? Shut up, this song is flawless. **A+**

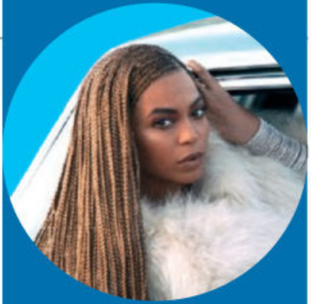
⑥ *INXS*
"What You Need"
What you need, according to frontman Michael Hutchence: amazing hair, awesome hooks, maybe a nice sax-y breakdown. What you don't: boring routines, fancy lyrics, any kind of shirt under that leather jacket. **A–**

⑦ *SLY FOX*
"Let's Go All the Way"
The title sounds like a bad pitch from a prom date, but in fact these one-off synth-pop wonders were going deep on political lies and income inequality and… We lost you already, didn't we? It's all on YouTube, kids. **B**

⑧ *THE ROLLING STONES*
"Harlem Shuffle"
The Stones' cover of Bob & Earl's 1963 hit is mostly notable for featuring Mick in his pink-blazer phase, and providing an easier wedding-dance option for drunk uncles who couldn't handle the Cabbage Patch. **B**

⑨ *VAN HALEN*
"Why Can't This Be Love"
Bye, Diamond Dave; hello, Sammy Hagar: a.k.a. Van Halen with even more power-ballad riffs, minus 97 percent of the unitards and split kicks. **B+**

⑩ *FORCE M.D.'S*
"Tender Love"
These R&B smoothies weren't actual doctors (the M.D. stood for "Musical Diversity"), more like meteorologists issuing a sweet quiet-storm advisory—with a strong chance of an El Niño in your bedroom, girl. **A–**



Beyoncé's Bey-Beys

What do a FLOTUS-approved duo, an *X Factor* contestant, and a Houston rapper have in common? They're the first wave of artists releasing music on Beyoncé's new label, Parkwood Entertainment. Get to know more about Queen B's promising protégées.

▷CHLOE X HALLE

After getting Bey's attention with a stunning YouTube cover of "Pretty Hurts" in 2013 and appearing on Michelle Obama's female-empowerment song "This Is for My Girls" in March, the teenage Bailey sisters released their debut single, the woozy banger "Drop," this month.

▷SOPHIE BEEM

Losing on *X Factor* in 2012 was a blessing. The 16-year-old belter, who teamed with Fetty Wap on "I Got It," has said she's the "luckiest person in the world" to work with Bey.

▷INGRID

The Houston rapper has history with the pop star: They were neighbors growing up in Texas, and the 29-year-old contributed tracks to Bey's surprise 2013 album.

SOURCE: *JOEL WHITBURN PRESENTS THE BILLBOARD® HOT 100® CHARTS—THE EIGHTIES*

PALMER: PAUL NATKIN/GETTY IMAGES; PRINCE: MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES; MICK JAGGER: DAVE HOGAN/GETTY IMAGES; FALCO: BRILL/ULLSTEIN BILD/GETTY IMAGES;
BEYONCE: ROBIN HARPER; CHLOE X HALLE: MAX PEPEND; BEEM: DANIELA VESCO; INGRID: PARKWOOD ENTERTAINMENT

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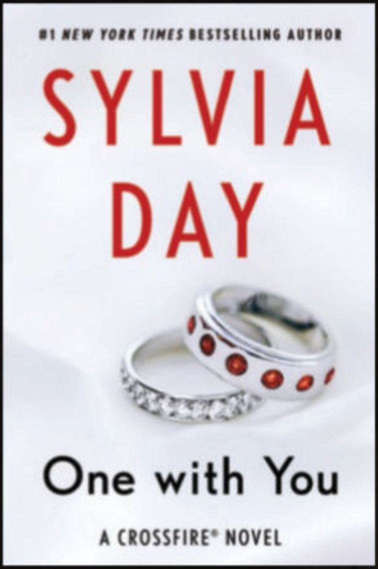
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The Essential Merle Haggard

The badass country outlaw, who died April 6 at 79, left behind one of the best bodies of work in American music. Here, EW celebrates just a few of his most memorable tunes. **BY MADISON VAIN**

1937–2016

MORE ON EW.COM
Hear these songs online at **ew.com/merlehaggard**

SING A SAD SONG
1963

The Hag introduced himself to the world with this string-laden ballad, his first to go top 20.

SING ME BACK HOME
1967

This regretful tune was inspired by an inmate he befriended while serving time in prison, and has been covered by everyone from Bob Dylan to the Grateful Dead.

MAMA TRIED
1968

Who says crooks can't have hearts? This No. 1 hit is a plain-spoken song about the pain he caused his mom with his law-breaking ways.

OKIE FROM MUSKOGEE
1969

Haggard skewers weed-smoking, anti–Vietnam War hippies on his best-known song. Or was he joking? Dylan once called it a great satire.

IF WE MAKE IT THROUGH DECEMBER
1973

He laments the loneliness of the holidays on one of the most depressing Christmas songs ever—but it's a country-radio staple four decades later.

PANCHO AND LEFTY
1983

His duet with pal Willie Nelson is the stuff of legend: They cut the track after a wild night of debauchery.

KERN RIVER *1985*

Haggard takes a grim subject (the drowning of his girlfriend) and turns it into a beautiful, heartbreaking ode.

NO TIME TO CRY *1996*

This Iris DeMent cover shows he was also a profound interpreter.

(THINK ABOUT A) LULLABY *2000*

With little more than his robust tenor and some strummy guitar, he delivers a gorgeous paean to his fifth wife, Theresa.

MISSING OL' JOHNNY CASH *2015*

Haggard and Nelson's duet honors another legend, the Man in Black.

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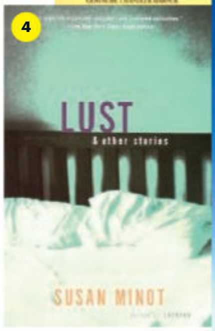
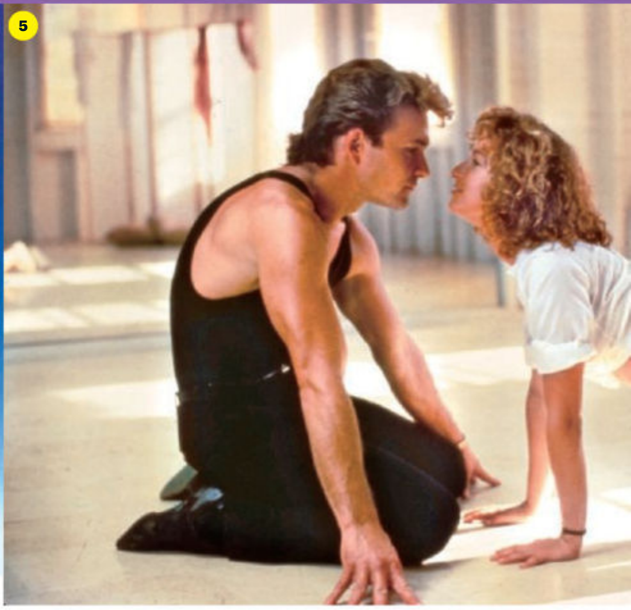




POP CULTURE OF MY LIFE

CURTIS SITTENFELD

To mark the publication of *Eligible*—a wickedly funny modern-day retelling of *Pride and Prejudice*—the author of *Prep* and *American Wife* dishes about a tree-house dream home, writing the sequel to *Dirty Dancing*, and the healing power of Taylor Swift

1

My favorite childhood book

I was obsessed with *The Boxcar Children*, about four orphaned siblings who resourcefully make a life for themselves in an abandoned boxcar. (I only ever read the first one and didn't know it was a series.) I recently reread it with my own kids, and it's dated in good and bad ways. (Bad: stereotypical gender roles. Good: Let's just say those kids don't need to be helicopter-parented.)

2

The novel I read in secret as a kid

Forever by Judy Blume. Last summer I had the thrilling experience of interviewing Blume on stage, and I reread *Forever* and wondered why in my 20s I had been so confused by dating and romance. When I was 10, *Forever* had told me everything I needed to know.

3

The first album I bought with my own money

Whitney Houston's eponymous debut album. I was 10 and found "Greatest Love of All" exquisitely beautiful (and I was right).

4

The book that cemented me as a writer

The title story in *Lust & Other Stories* by Susan Minot, about a girl at a boarding school, is perfectly detailed and devastating. I read it as a girl at a boarding school, and I later wrote my own novel about a girl at a boarding school, no doubt partly because Minot's example showed me that the subject was worthy of literature.

5

My all-time favorite movie

Dirty Dancing. I dream of writing the screenplay for a sequel, which I suspect is not a unique dream among female writers of a certain age.

6

The book people might be surprised to learn I love

Barbara Walters' autobiography, *Audition*, is a great read—a surprisingly candid story of grit, moxie, and talent.

7

The book I've read over and over again

I'm a parent, so there are tons of books I've read over and over again. Currently in heavy rotation is Dr. Seuss' *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*, which I can't believe hasn't been made into a movie—it's so well structured, and its themes of environmental degradation and political hubris are so prescient.

8

The last TV series I binged

In December, my husband and I (finally) started watching *The Wire* for the first time, and we joked that this kind of commitment was probably the closest we'll ever get to renewing our wedding vows. Four months later we're in the last season, so I suppose the definition of *binge* is subjective.

9

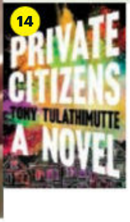
My literary crush

I confess I recently bought the nonfiction book *Evicted: Poverty*

BETWEEN THE LINES

Doubleday says *Rich People Problems*, the final book in **Kevin Kwan**'s Crazy Rich trilogy, will come out in summer 2017. • **Ian McKellen**, citing privacy, decided not to write a memoir—and returned his $1.4 million advance.

15
Willful Disregard
LENA ANDERSSON



and Profit in the American City partly because I thought the author, whose name is Matthew Desmond, was good-looking. But I mean, who wouldn't have a crush on a hot, socially conscious professor?

10

The song that always makes me feel better

"Shake It Off."

11

The last album I listened to

1989, so that I could shake it off.

12

The last book that made me laugh, and the last one that made me cry

The memoir *Bettyville* by George Hodgman, about a single, gay New York editor's return to the small Missouri town where he grew up to care for his aged mom, made me laugh and cry. Also on the cry-inducing front, Sara Nović's *Girl at War* is a novel about a 10-year-old Croatian girl during the Yugoslav wars, and it contains one of the most upsetting (and artful) scenes I've ever read.

13

The fictional place I dream of moving to

I've always found the Berenstain Bears' tree house unpretentiously cozy.

14

What I'm reading now

Private Citizens by Tony Tulathimutte. I didn't know if I wanted to read a novel about screwed-up Stanford grads in 2007, but when it's this caustically smart and funny, it turns out I like nothing better.

15

The last book I gave as a gift

The Swedish novel *Willful Disregard* by Lena Andersson. It's about a woman who falls for a man who encourages her enough to keep her hope alive even though he'll never give her what she wants, which is to say it's about how love makes fools of even the smartest people.

16

The most underrated TV show

The exceptionally charming *Master of None.*

17

The book I'd use to squash a bug

My own—*Eligible* or *American Wife*—would suffice quite nicely. I actually yearn to write a slim, elegant, satisfying 200-page novel, which I plan to trick myself into doing by pretending I'm writing a short story.

18

A classic I'm embarrassed to say I've never read

There's not enough space to list them all! That said, I've realized that everyone has vast holes in their personal bibliographies. There are a lot of books in the world.

19

My literary hero

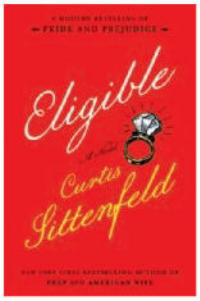
Lizzie Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*—do you even need to ask?

20

The fictional character I'd want on my side in a zombie apocalypse

Um...Lizzie Bennet.

SITTENFELD: JOSEPHINE SITTENFELD; *MASTER OF NONE*: KC BAILEY/NETFLIX


A MODERN RETELLING OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
Eligible
A Novel
Curtis Sittenfeld
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF PREP AND AMERICAN WIFE

Eligible

BY Curtis Sittenfeld

PAGES 488

GENRE Novel

REVIEW BY
Tina Jordan @EWTinaJordan

IT MAY HAVE BEEN published 203 years ago, but the first line of *Pride and Prejudice* still crackles: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife." Curtis Sittenfeld's sparkling, fresh contemporary retelling of the Jane Austen classic does not open with quite the same punch—"Well before his arrival in Cincinnati, everyone knew that Chip Bingley was looking for a wife"—but in almost every other way, the fizzy tale of the five Bennet sisters and their marriage-minded mother works beautifully in 21st-century Ohio. The characters have kept all their original motivations, and Sittenfeld hews closely to Austen's smart, satirical plot, substituting CrossFit, shopping, and reality TV for dances and teas. If there's one thing that's lost in this cross-century translation, it's the utter romance of *Pride and Prejudice* (a run-down Midwestern Tudor is a far cry from Pemberley). But that's a small quibble, one that won't stop you from guzzling this down in one or two sittings. **A–** E C A

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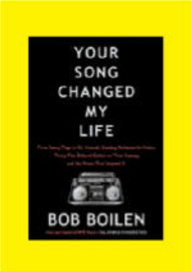
QUICK TAKES

MAESTRA
L.S. HILTON

Maestra

L.S. HILTON
Thriller

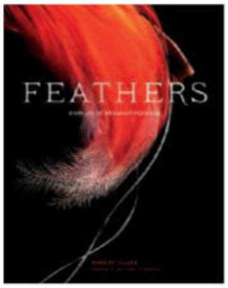
Patrick Bateman, Tom Ripley, Dr. Hannibal Lecter: It feels like most literary psychopaths are men, with sex and masculine power sewn into the linings of their bloodstained, perfectly tailored suits. Sure, you can find their female counterparts—Chelsea Cain's deeply terrifying Gretchen Lowell comes to mind—but for whatever reason, it seems like there aren't that many of them. Enter *Maestra*, a sensual, sweat-suffused thriller that begins as the story of Judith Rashleigh, an unassuming gallery assistant in London, and then, faster than the flick of a knife, shifts into a crash course in high fashion, luxury travel, and murders of convenience. It's the speed of that turn that keeps *Maestra* engaging throughout, but Judith remains frustratingly distant, and that mires the novel in the realm of macabre wish fulfillment. **B** —*Kevin P. Sullivan* E C A



Your Song Changed My Life

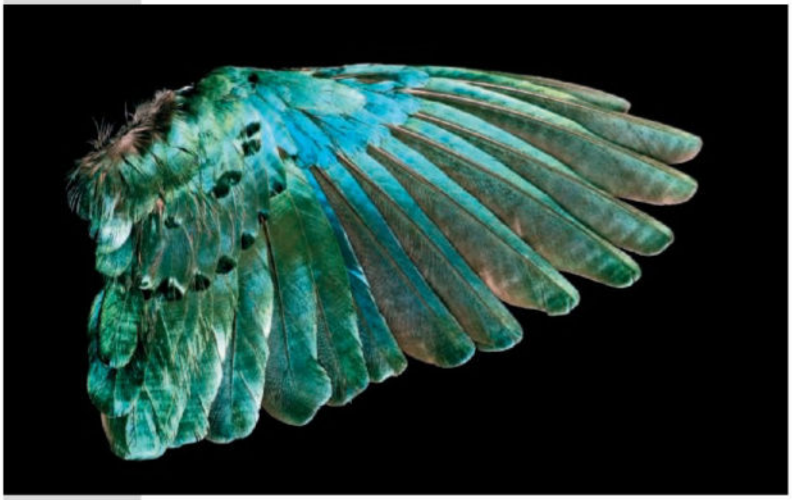
BOB BOILEN
Nonfiction

In his debut—part memoir, part criticism, and part music history—the NPR music sage, who's behind all those addictive Tiny Desk Concerts, takes readers on a wide-ranging journey. Die-hard Boilen fans will love personal tidbits about his discovering the Beatles as a kid, performing in D.C.'s underground music scene in the '80s, and meeting a young Ira Glass, but the real prizes here are his interviews with musicians, from Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page to rising electronic whiz James Blake, about what sparked *their* love of music. Whether he's chatting with singer-songwriter Jenny Lewis about getting turned on to A Tribe Called Quest as a teenager or deconstructing the modern classical canon with composer Philip Glass, Boilen confirms with *Your Song* that he's one of the most versatile—and most fascinating—music writers working today. **A** —*Eric Renner Brown* E C A



WINGING IT

In his new book, longtime *National Geographic* photographer Robert Clark shoots birds' plumage—often very close-up—with stunning, kaleidoscopic results



SUPERB STARLING "These iridescent birds live in large flocks where females interbreed with multiple males for larger genetic diversity, while the males pair with a single female for life," Clark writes.

MALLARD DUCK "Mallards are...known as 'dabblers' because they float on the surface of the water, feeding just under the surface instead of diving for their food."

FLAMINGO "The Greater Flamingo's signature pink coloring is a result of its diet: Flamingos consume massive amounts of animal and plant plankton rich in beta carotene."

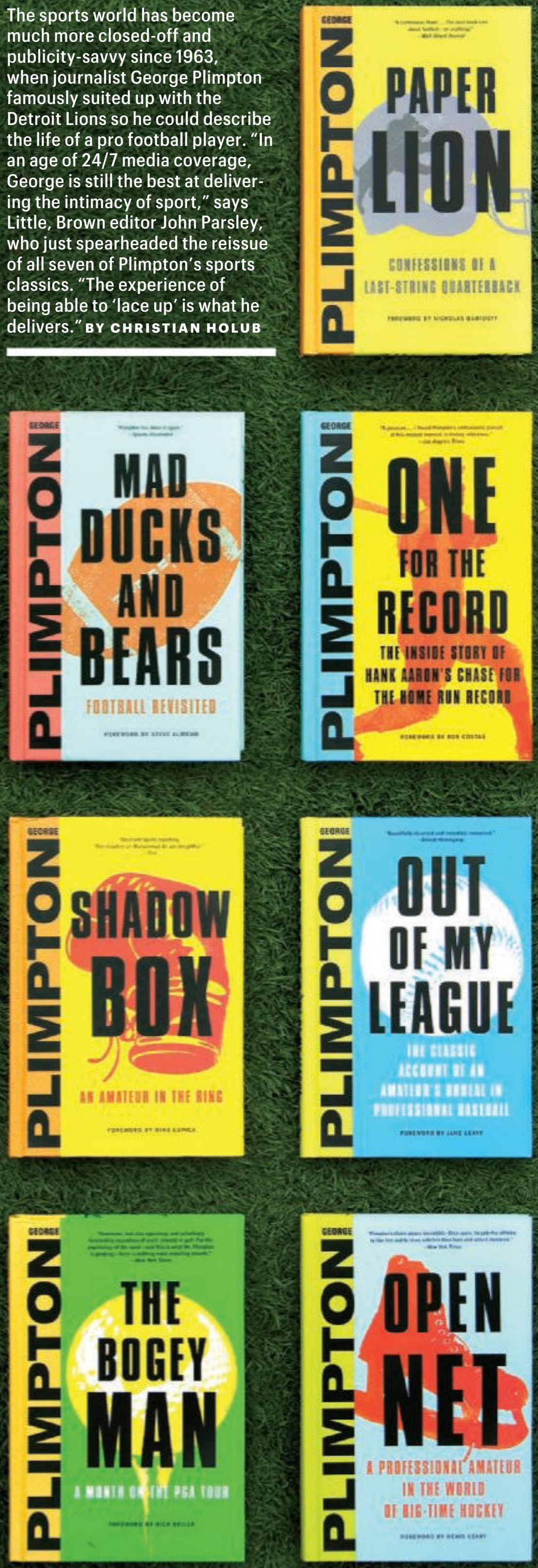
BOHEMIAN WAXWING "The Waxwing is best known for getting drunk—they often eat the fermented rowan berries."

LESSER SNOW GOOSE "This image displays the bird's high-altitude slotted wing, which allows the goose to fly long distances with high efficiency."

FEATHERS: *FEATHERS: DISPLAYS OF BRILLIANT PLUMAGE* BY ROBERT CLARK, PUBLISHED BY CHRONICLE BOOKS 2016 (5)

IN A LEAGUE OF HIS OWN

The sports world has become much more closed-off and publicity-savvy since 1963, when journalist George Plimpton famously suited up with the Detroit Lions so he could describe the life of a pro football player. "In an age of 24/7 media coverage, George is still the best at delivering the intimacy of sport," says Little, Brown editor John Parsley, who just spearheaded the reissue of all seven of Plimpton's sports classics. "The experience of being able to 'lace up' is what he delivers." **BY CHRISTIAN HOLUB**


GEORGE PLIMPTON
PAPER LION
CONFESSIONS OF A LAST-STRING QUARTERBACK
MAD DUCKS AND BEARS
FOOTBALL REVISITED
ONE FOR THE RECORD
THE INSIDE STORY OF HANK AARON'S CHASE FOR THE HOME RUN RECORD
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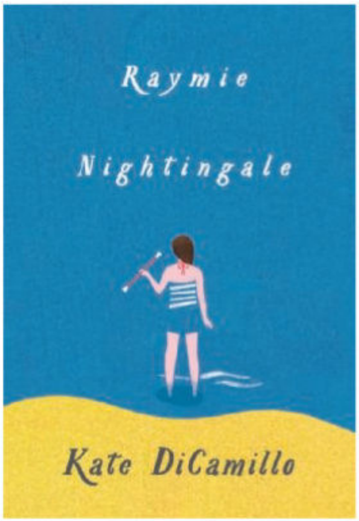
OUT OF MY LEAGUE
THE CLASSIC ACCOUNT OF AN AMATEUR'S ORDEAL IN PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL
THE BOGEY MAN
A MONTH ON THE PGA TOUR
OPEN NET
A PROFESSIONAL AMATEUR IN THE WORLD OF BIG-TIME HOCKEY

PHOTOGRAPH BY **METTIE OSTROWSKI**


Raymie Nightingale
Kate DiCamillo

Raymie Nightingale

BY Kate DiCamillo | **PAGES** 264 | **GENRE** Middle Grade

REVIEW BY Isabella Biedenharn @*isabella324*

▶ **KATE DICAMILLO HAS MASTERED A PARTICULAR** strand of sadness: the heartbreak and emptiness of lonely young children who've been abandoned by a parent and must come to terms with the fact that the parent might never return. India Opal, the heroine of DiCamillo's beloved 2000 debut, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, lived with this ache, and now so does Raymie Clarke—but 10-year-old Raymie has a plan. If she can just figure out how to win the 1975 Little Miss Central Florida Tire contest, she'll get her picture in the paper, and her father—who's run off with a dental hygienist—will surely come home. With the help of two spunky new friends she meets during baton-twirling lessons—Beverly, the tough, lock-picking cop's daughter who dreams of sabotage, and Louisiana, who comes from "a show business background" and is prone to fainting spells—Raymie sets out to do the good deed the contest requires, which unleashes a chain of increasingly dangerous adventures.

Raymie's earnestness is impossible not to fall in love with. When the directions on the application form say to answer all questions, she scrawls a tiny "yes" next to the headline "Do you want to be Little Miss Central Florida Tire?" DiCamillo's prose contains magical lines—"There was something scary about watching an adult sleep. It was as if no one at all were in charge of the world"—which grow even more poignant when you realize the sleeping adult is a mean drunk, and that the young girls are dealing with more than they even know. She also has a profound understanding of the way children collect bits of tossed-off wisdom from adults and turn them into a life manual. It's a thrill to watch Raymie go through this process, uncovering truths and forming new questions along the way. **A–** E C A

KEY E = E-BOOK C = CD A = AUDIBLE

⚠WARNING

Children have been known to SHARE books with each other. This can lead to talking, LAUGHING and inside jokes. In some extreme cases kids will develop a lifelong FRIENDSHIP that surpasses time and distance. Read with caution.

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Stage

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The movies-to-stage trend isn't letting up anytime soon. Our picks? ***Freaky Friday***, premiering in Arlington, Va., this fall, and ***Romy and Michele's High School Reunion***, coming to Seattle in June 2017.

EDITED BY **DANIELLE NUSSBAUM** @daniellenuss

SHERVIN LAINEZ

GREAT ADAPTATIONS

WAITRESS

A Little Slice of Heaven

Acclaimed songstress Sara Bareilles concocts the perfect recipe for baking a beloved indie film into a blue-ribbon Broadway musical. **BY MARC SNETIKER**

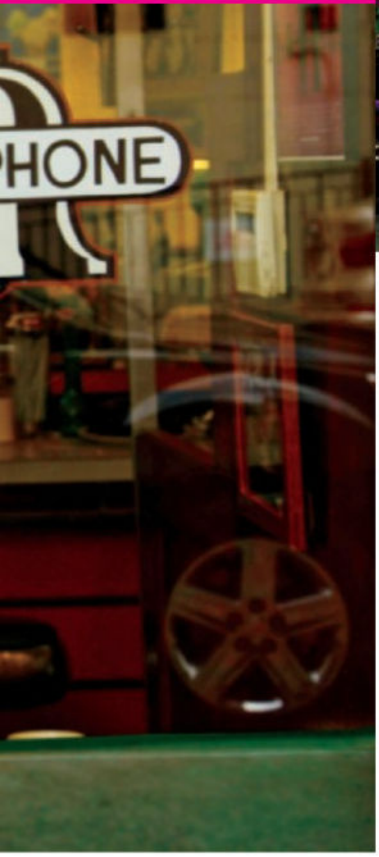
Sara Bareilles can't get enough pie. "I've eaten more pie in the last four years than I ever have in my life," says the 36-year-old singer-songwriter, a five-time Grammy nominee known for her pop hits like "Brave" and "Love Song." But her life has more or less revolved around the dessert since she agreed to write the music and lyrics for *Waitress*, the Broadway musical based on the 2007 indie about a wistful waitress with a passion for—you guessed it—cookies. No, just kidding—it's pie.

And based on the show's buzzy arrival, already breaking house records at NYC's Brooks Atkinson Theatre, there will be many more pies, particularly of a celebratory nature, once the show opens April 24.

In *Waitress*, Bareilles stretches a slew of small-town muscles, writing torch songs and tuneful tics (with a book by Jessie Nelson) for the folks of the pastoral South who work in and frequent Joe's Pie Diner. It's within the stucco walls of the diner that pie-making virtuoso Jenna—a server trapped in a bad marriage, recently shaken by an unexpected pregnancy—devises a plan to escape her burdens and start fresh.

Bareilles understands what it feels like to be stuck in a rut. When it comes to a pop-star career, "you write the record, you record the record, you tour the record—then you do it all over again," she says, snug under a blanket in the back of the theater during a break in rehearsals. So, after a cold call from Tony-winning director Diane Paulus with an offer to follow in the footsteps of other big-ticket musicians—like Cyndi Lauper, Sting, and Dolly Parton—who have recently added "Broadway composer" to their résumés, Bareilles (who grew up doing community theater in Eureka, Calif.) was intrigued. "This came out of left field but ended up feeling like it came much more naturally," she says. "It wasn't just about 'Bury your

> "THIS CAME OUT OF LEFT FIELD BUT ENDED UP FEELING LIKE IT CAME MUCH MORE NATURALLY."
> —**SARA BAREILLES**



▲ (*Clockwise from left*) Sara Bareilles; Keala Settle, Jessie Mueller, and Kimiko Glenn in Broadway's *Waitress*; Cheryl Hines, Keri Russell, and Adrienne Shelly in the 2007 film

heart, Sara. What *other* guy pissed you off?' It was about the fun of writing for different perspectives."

After meeting with Paulus, Bareilles rewatched the film (starring Keri Russell, and written and directed by the late Adrienne Shelly) and created her first song for the score—Jenna's 11 o'clock number "She Used to Be Mine," a blazing ballad of bygone dreams and broken self-identity. "That song became the centerpiece and the portal for me to find my story in the story of these characters," says Bareilles.

Three years of tears, pies, and cut songs later (including a *Beauty and the Beast*-esque number called "Down at the Diner"), Bareilles had the music and lyrics ready for the show's trial run in Cambridge, Mass., in August 2015. And then? "The most time-intensive year I've ever had," says Bareilles, describing a packed autumn with the release of her memoir, a book tour, and her fifth studio album, *What's Inside: Songs From Waitress*. "It was totally self-indulgent," she confesses. "But we were fast approaching a cast album, and I didn't know I was going to fall so deeply in love with this music. There was a part of me that was just craving to do it once myself and frame it, sonically, as a Sara Bareilles record, a keepsake for me."

Now she'll "happily pass the baton" to the heiress of the soulful, pop-rock score: 33-year-old rising ingenue Jessie Mueller, a Tony winner for her star-making performance as Carole King in 2014's *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. Coincidentally, Bareilles duetted with King at the Grammys just weeks before she saw *Beautiful* and fast-tracked Mueller to the top of her dream cast list for Jenna. "It was this incredible cosmic perfect storm," she says. "[Mueller] has the perfect blend of relatability and vulnerability and strength."

That doesn't mean that Bareilles, who auditioned for shows in years past, didn't consider playing the role. "A part of me asked myself, could I do this?" she muses. "But I so deeply believe that Jessie is *the* person that was supposed to originate this role."

Don't expect Bareilles to wait in the wings, though: She was just tapped to play Ariel in *The Little Mermaid* at the Hollywood Bowl this summer. The casting goes hand in hand with a swell of pop stars eyeing the stage. "We're all coming out of the closet together like, 'I'm a theater geek, too!'" she says. "Jason Mraz has a theater background and loves the idea of doing something on Broadway. Josh Groban is going to debut this year [in *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*]."

But right now, Bareilles has to focus on *Waitress*. There are just a few weeks of previews left, and she's about to redo an entire number. The process of putting on a Broadway musical can be chaotic—overwhelming at times, but also buoyant. "I got emotional yesterday, and it was our day off," Bareilles says, laughing. "I don't know that I ever thought I'd do anything like this, and to have been so well received for something that I love so deeply... I really drank the Kool-Aid on this s---." At least it goes great with pie.

WAITRESS (MUSICAL): JOAN MARCUS; *WAITRESS*: ALAN MARKFIELD

GREAT ADAPTATIONS

AMERICAN PSYCHO

There Will Be Blood

It took a lot of guts—and even more gore—to bring the disturbingly brilliant slasher novel and cult-classic film to Broadway. **BY CLARK COLLIS**

▲ (*Above*) Benjamin Walker in the show; (*below*) Christian Bale in the 2000 film

Do you think turning Bret Easton Ellis' infamous 1991 serial-killer novel *American Psycho* into a musical is a terrible idea? So did singer-songwriter Duncan Sheik when he was approached to adapt Ellis' tale of homicidal investment banker Patrick Bateman for the stage about seven years ago. "I did not see this as a musical," laughs Sheik, a Tony winner for *Spring Awakening*. "Fortunately, when I reread the book I was like, 'This is so f---ing amazing.' And Patrick is a music aficionado. So I said, 'Maybe this would be a great opportunity.' "

Audiences will judge if Sheik's decision was wise when *American Psycho* opens April 21 at NYC's Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre. Directed by Rupert Goold (*King Charles III*), with choreography by Lynne Page (*La Cage aux Folles*), the musical stars Benjamin Walker (*Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*) as a *very* buff Bateman. "I have a trainer, and he kicks my ass," says Walker, who spends much of the second act wearing nothing but Calvin Klein tighty-whities and fake blood. "We were going for 'prison-ripped.' "

Ellis' book was, of course, turned into a 2000 film starring Christian Bale, and it was the movie that got producer Jesse Singer thinking about a musical. After securing Ellis' blessing, Singer approached Sheik, who set to work on songs like the designer-label-centric "You Are What You Wear" and new arrangements of '80s-era pop classics, from Phil Collins' "In the Air Tonight" to New Order's "True Faith." Meanwhile, the show's book writer, Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, worked on a plotline about Bateman's relationship with his secretary–cum–possible victim, Jean. "It very much is a beauty-and-the-beast love story," says Aguirre-Sacasa, a writer on *Glee* who also co-penned 2013's remake of *Carrie*.

In 2013 the musical received its world premiere at London's Almeida Theatre, where Goold is artistic director. *Doctor Who*'s Matt Smith portrayed the mergers-and-acquisitions maniac in what Goold now admits was a seat-of-the-pants production. "It was just unfinished," he says. "There was a lot to make good."

The Broadway show boasts an entirely fresh cast, with Jennifer Damiano (*Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*) playing Jean and Tony winner Alice Ripley (*Next to Normal*) as Bateman's mother. New material includes an opening number called "Selling Out" and a clutch of references to Donald Trump. "All the Trump stuff is in the book," says Walker. "It is funny, but it is also unsettling how far we have come—and haven't."

The big question is whether theatergoers have come far enough to enjoy a show whose "hero" is a psychopathic murderer with a fetish for horror movies (as well as more sexually deviant interests). "Look, we're not going to be getting the same crowd as goes to see *Annie*," says Sheik. "But there is a tradition of intense, bloody shows—the most obvious of which is *Sweeney Todd*." And if *American Psycho* is a hit, can Ellis see any of his other books becoming musicals? "Well, if this is a hit, I'd like to see *all* of them become a musical," says the author. "And get a little bit better profit participation."

AMERICAN PSYCHO (MUSICAL): JEREMY DANIEL; *AMERICAN PSYCHO*: KERRY HAYES

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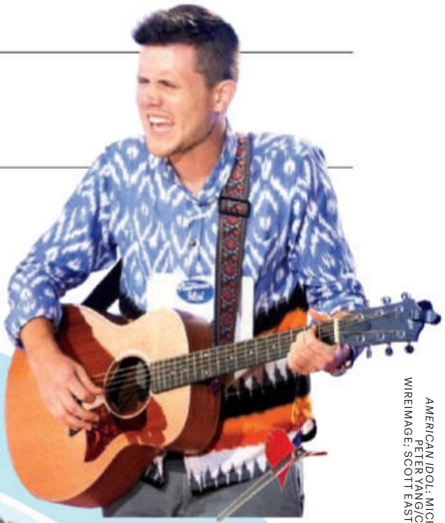
The Bullseye

BY **MARC SNETIKER** @MarcSnetiker

Rob's fiancée, Blac Chyna, will reportedly change her name to Angela Kardashian.... We're assuming the *K* is silent.

Kevin Federline releases new rap single. Didn't we divorce him, like, 10 years ago?



Congrats to the last *American Idol* winner, White Guy With Guitar No. 6.

Nicki Minaj's *Barbershop* outfits are so bananas, you'd think they were designed by Nicki Minaj's, like, actual outfits.

Further *Confirmation* that we adore Kerry Washington

Our love for this show? *Unbreakable.*

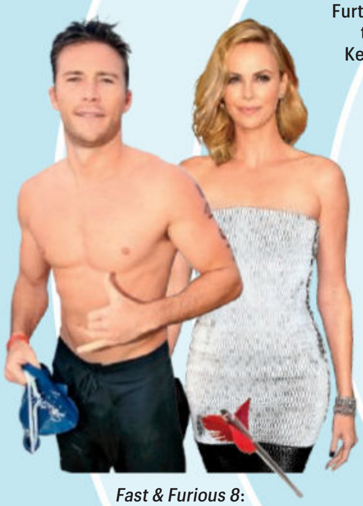
Still the Boss

Still *a* Boss

Ain't Your Mama

J. Lo's "Ain't Your Mama": maybe not your mama, but definitely your mama's new weekend jam

Sing Street: the most charming street since *Sesame*, the most important Sing since -apore.



Fast & Furious 8: where the stars are in even harder shape than the cars

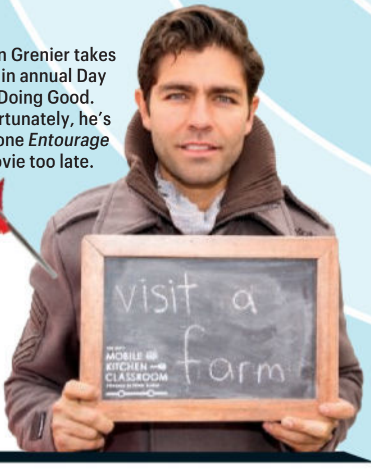
No, cloning your DVR will not make *Orphan Black* episodes come faster. Believe us, we tried.

Amazing Amy is no longer gone, girl.

Damn right you should be guarding this national treasure.

Jacob Tremblay gets new puppy, names her Rey. So *that's* who her father is.

Killing off your lead actress? Pretty *Hollow* move, *Sleepy*.



Adrian Grenier takes part in annual Day of Doing Good. Unfortunately, he's just one *Entourage* movie too late.

Pack your Axe body spray and pleather fringe—it's time for Coachella!

AMERICAN IDOL: MICHAEL BECKER/FOX; *UNBREAKABLE KIMMY SCHMIDT*: MATTHIAS CLAMER/NETFLIX (2); BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN: KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY IMAGES; MELISSA MCCARTHY: HOPPER STONE; *SING STREET*: WEINSTEIN COMPANY; AMY SCHUMER: PETER YANG/COMEDY CENTRAL; *SLEEPY HOLLOW*: MICHAEL LAVINE/FOX; TREMBLAY: MIKE WINDLE/GETTY IMAGES FOR WE DAY; COACHELLA: CHELSEA LAUREN/WIREIMAGE; HELEN MIRREN: MIKE MARSLAND/WIREIMAGE; GRENIER: NOAM GALAI/ WIREIMAGE; SCOTT EASTWOOD: AARON DAVIDSON/GETTY IMAGES FOR LIFE TIME ATHLETIC EVENTS; CHARLIZE THERON: FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES; *ORPHAN BLACK*: KEN WORONER/BBC AMERICA; WASHINGTON: FRANK MASI/HBO; MINAJ: CHUCK ZLOTNICK; FEDERLINE: MINDY SMALL/FILMMAGIC; ROB KARDASHIAN AND BLAC CHYNA: PRINCE WILLIAMS/WIREIMAGE

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